THE TIMES

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TUESDAY NOVEMBER 19 1996

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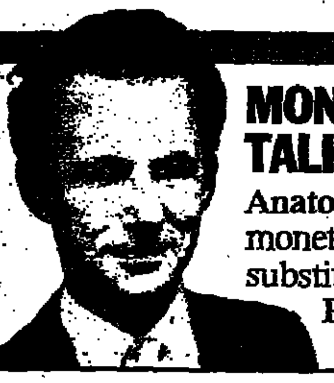

MONEY TALKS

Anatole Kaletsky says monetary union is a substitute for war
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PLAY THE £50,000 GAME

See how your players are performing
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Dunblane parents watch from gallery as MPs hear arguments for the shooting lobby

Tories step back from voting to weaken gun Bill

By Philip Webster, Political Editor

AN attempt by Conservative MPs to water down the Government's new gun controls, prompted by the Dunblane massacre, crumbled in the Commons last night.

With parents of Dunblane victims watching from the public gallery, amendments that would have excluded single-shot and sporting pistols from the ban outlined in the Firearms Bill were withdrawn as their proposers accepted that they would be overwhelmingly defeated. They promised to fight on during the later stages of the Bill.

But a move backed by Labour and the Liberal Democrats to widen the ban to cover all handguns, including the smaller calibre .22 pistols which the Government has decided to exempt, seemed destined to fail, in spite of last-minute personal appeals to MPs by Dunblane parents and a teacher wounded in the shooting.

As MPs debated the amendment to ban all 200,000 legally-held handguns in Britain — which a few Conservative MPs led by David Mellor, the former Cabinet minister, were lining up to support — the Labour leadership announced that if it wins power next year it will carry through the full prohibition.

The move ensured that gun control is destined to become an election issue.

Robert Hughes, Tory MP for Harrow West and one of the Conservatives calling for a total ban, said there should have been a free vote. About 160,00 high-calibre guns were being outlawed, Mr Hughes said. "If the Government are happy and prepared to go that far, why not the next logical step in banning low-calibre guns as well."

The campaign on behalf of the shooting lobby to widen the exemptions to the ban was led by Sir Jerry Wiggin, MP for Weston-super-Mare, and backed by several Conservatives in their speeches. By withdrawing their amendments in the face of heavy defeats, they have left open the possibility of the issue being considered again at the report stage of the Bill, and in the Lords where Conservative peers seem certain to stage a revolt.

Sir Jerry told MPs that single-shot guns should be retained for sporting purposes. "These guns are unlikely to be selected by a maniac because, being of a single-shot nature, they are quite unsuitable for death and destruction. They are suitable for shooting a target."

Sir Jerry said he was sorry that the Government had "seen fit to draw the line so tightly" and seek a ban on single-shot pistols. Such a ban, he said, would deprive men and women of a sport in which Britain had excelled at the Commonwealth and Olympic Games.

Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, said the Government could not allow such a move: "These amendments would exempt single-shot pistols from the general prohibition, effectively limiting the ban to multi-shot guns. They would allow single-shot handguns to continue to be kept at home. I cannot invite MPs to support these amendments. The Government believes there is no place for handguns in the home."

He added: "Even a single-shot handgun can be used to kill, and they are very easy to carry and to conceal."

Doug Henderson, from the Labour frontbench, supported Mr Howard's refusal to give in to the gun lobby. "I agree with you that a single-shot pistol of a high calibre is an extremely lethal weapon and has been shown to be that," he said. "If one accepts that action needs to be taken, which includes action to outlaw pistol shooting in clubs, then it would be unacceptable to allow this kind of exemption."

He added: "I don't believe that one can argue for the privileges and the rights of the sports person to take precedent over the risk to the population."

Mr Howard later surprised MPs by raising the possibility that the Home Secretary of the day could act to allow the one Commonwealth Games shooting event involving guns of a bigger calibre than .22 to take place at the Manchester Games in 2002. He said he had the authority under the 1988 Firearms Act to approve an application from organisers to allow the event to go ahead.

But in reply to questions, he accepted that British competitors would not be able to practise in this country for the event. His disclosure was described as "logical absurdity" by Edward Leigh, MP for Gainsborough and Horncastle.

Sir Patrick Cormack, Conservative MP for Staffordshire South, voiced his unease over the Bill. He said: "Panic legislation is rarely good legislation and although Thomas Hamilton did unspeakable things with the weapons that he legally possessed, Thomas Hamilton is in a sense having his revenge in that legislation, which is going to penalise a large number of law-abiding citizens of this country who have never and would never contemplate doing wrong."

Matthew Parris, page 2
Commons debate, page 10

SIMON WALKER

Eileen Harrild, the Dunblane teacher wounded in the shooting, at Westminster yesterday

Wounded teacher tries to shame MPs into action

By Alice Thomson
Political Reporter

A TEACHER and parents of children who were shot at Dunblane went to Westminster yesterday to "shame MPs into doing the right thing".

They did not bring placards or petitions, they did not raise their voices. Nine parents joined the relatives of Gwen Mayor, the teacher who was killed, and Eileen Harrild, the teacher who was wounded, in urging MPs to vote for a total ban on handguns.

Mrs Harrild was choking with emotion as she recalled the last moments in the gymnasium. "I had no idea what calibre of guns Thomas Hamilton was carrying on March 13," she said. "It just seems ludicrous that the Government are thinking of retaining .22 calibre handguns in the name of sport."

Rod Mayor, who carried a picture of his wife, said: "To every MP I say: 'Think of the person you love most dearly — and then think of the 17 families identifying the bullet-ridden bodies of their loved ones'. Do we want to risk a tragedy like this one again."

George Robertson, shadow Scottish Secretary, tried to keep the families' spirits up as they spoke about their lost children in an effort to win MPs round. He was joined by Hugh Dykes, Terry Dicks and Robert Hughes, all Tory rebels.

Before filing into the chamber, they said a prayer to Victoria, Emma, Sophie, David, Hannah, Melissa, John, Charlotte, Emily, Megan, Kevin, Brett, Joanna, Abigail, Mhairi, Ross and Gwen.

The pro-gun lobby arrived making a great deal more noise and brandishing flags proclaiming: "57,000 shooters are being punished for one man's action."

As Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, got up to speak it was clear that both groups would be united only in their disappointment with the outcome of the vote.

Debt boost for Clarke

A stunning haul of tax receipts from British companies and consumers has given Kenneth Clarke unexpected room for manoeuvre in next week's Budget.

The Government repaid £4.4 billion of its debt last month — twice as much as expected — and economists said that Mr Clarke could now cut taxes and reduce his public borrowing forecast for next year..........Page 27

Royal PR quits

Charles Anson has resigned as the Queen's press secretary to become public relations director for Grand Metropolitan, whose interests include Burger King and Smirnoff vodka. He will be replaced by his deputy Geoffrey Crawford..........Page 9

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Portillo backs new inquiry into British arms deals

By Arthur Leathley and Michael Evans

A FRESH investigation into Britain's arms export policy looked increasingly likely last night after allegations that a British company supplied weapons to the former Rwandan Government during the genocide of a million people.

The Commons Trade and Industry Select Committee, which demanded tighter controls on export licensing after another British company sold guns to Iran in spite of an arms embargo in the 1980s, is expected to discuss the allegations in private tomorrow.

And Michael Portillo lent his support to MPs' calls for an investigation into the Rwandan deals, saying they would provoke "a lot of thinking in Government circles".

Some MPs believe that ministers misled them by claiming that controls had been strengthened. Martin O'Neill, the trade committee's Labour chairman, said: "We have been told that administration has been tightened up. Yet this story would seem to suggest that there were still serious problems. It would appear that the authorities were not carrying out the work that they told my committee a few weeks ago they were doing."

"I buy one each year from this wonderful little firm in Britain"

MPs on the committee believe that there are still insufficient measures to prevent British companies breaching arms embargos by exporting weapons and ammunition via third countries. The £3.3 million of arms allegedly supplied to the former Rwandan Army by an Isle of Man-based company trading as Mil-Tec Corporation Ltd reached their destination via Israel and Albania.

Mr Portillo said: "The question being raised is that even if they don't export the arms from this country, should agents or intermediaries be allowed to be based in the United Kingdom."

Mil-Tec trail, page 2
Invasion plan, page 12
Let Zaire fall, page 16
Leading article, page 17

Belgian ministers deny sex scandal

From Charles Bremner in Brussels

THE Belgian Deputy Prime Minister and a regional minister were at the centre of criminal investigations into paedophilia last night as the inquiry into last summer's child murder scandal grew.

Officials confirmed that Elio Di Rupo, the Deputy Prime Minister and Economics Minister, was the focus of a police investigation after media reports linking him to homosexual acts with minors. Mr Di Rupo, 45, who makes no secret of his homosexuality, denied any connection with paedophile crime, as did Jean-Pierre Grafé, the Minister for Higher Education in the French-speaking region.

The two men were linked in Belgian television reports to an investigation into homosexual prostitution in Brussels. There was no suggestion, however, of any connection with the case of Marc Dutroux, the paedophile kidnapper at the centre of the crisis that has gripped Belgium since August. However, the inquiry into the ministers' activities was a severe shock for the Government of Jean-Luc Dehaene, the Prime Minister.

Both Mr Di Rupo and Mr Grafé accused political opponents of mounting a smear

Continued on page 2, col 4

Di Rupo: welcomed the chance to clear his name

Monkhouse has the last laugh over stolen jokes

By Emma Wilkins

A MAN collecting £10,000 for returning Bob Monkhouse's stolen comedy routines discovered yesterday that the best gags often have a sting in the tail. After he handed over the missing jokes, he was arrested by police.

The two books of sketches and one-liners were stolen from BBC Television Centre in July last year and the comedian offered a £10,000 reward "no questions asked" to have them back. Peter Pritchard, Mr Monkhouse's agent and a special constable for 14 years, set up yesterday's meeting in his west London office. Mr Pritchard said: "We were approached on Sunday night about the return of some personal property. I obviously called the police." At the meeting, "the books were returned to us, the money was passed over and the police arrested a man".

Mr Monkhouse was thrilled last night. "To say I am overjoyed would be understating my state of mind. I am ecstatic," he said. "My agent told me: 'Your babies have returned home.' It's a bit like winning the Lottery."

A police spokesman said last night: "A £10,000 reward was handed to a man. Officers from West End Central made themselves known and arrested a man for allegedly handling stolen goods. He is now in custody at Bow Street."

Mr Monkhouse is still without his old jokes — they are being held by police as evidence.

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Lynch law rules as frightened leaders wait for the strangers in town

MATTHEW PARRIS

POLITICAL SKETCH

For good or ill, the Dunblane parents terrorised the Commons yesterday. That may sound harsh, but how else do you describe the sense of duress hanging over the Chamber? Doubtful backbenchers looked up nervously at the block of empty seats in the Strangers' Gallery which the Serjeant-at-Arms Department had reserved for the parents and their Snowdrop Campaign leader.

MPs who ventured to oppose the Firearms Bill prefaced every argument with condolences to the bereaved. As both front benches combined to ram through the Bill using a "guillotine" to curtail debate. Ministers and Labour spokesmen laced their remarks with insistence that the matter was urgent. Nobody explained why.

During the earlier part of the day, the Dunblane parents had been accommodated in a large Committee Room upstairs, where MPs were invited in to see them. As debate on the preliminary motions began, an entire two rows of empty seats, the width of the Strangers' Gallery, became apparent: an empty stretch of green leather never normally seen in the mid-afternoon, when pressure for seats from the public is strong. These were for Dunblane parents awaiting the main debate.

This sketchwriter was unaware that lobbying groups, however deserving, were able to book large blocks of seats to be kept for their arrival, sitting together. The effect (perhaps unintentionally) was intimidating.

Introducing the guillotine motion, the Home Secretary, Michael Howard, said that extraordinary measures were necessary when legislation "directly affecting the safety and security of the public" was urgently needed. "If ever there were such an issue," he said, "this is it."

If grimaces are any guide, some backbenchers regarded this remark as patently absurd, but it was greeted by a wise nodding of heads along both front benches.

"We owe it to the victims to bring this crucial issue to a conclusion," Mr Howard's Labour Shadow, Jack Straw, said. It was "not an issue which should be decided by party or ideology, but by the conscience and judgment of those on both sides".

In fact, a guillotine motion is framed in order for party to override the conscience and judgment of those on both sides. This sketch awaits a workable definition of the category of measures that ought *not* to be decided by the conscience and judgment of those on both sides.

Cowed, however, by the coralling of "conscience and judgment" behind one point of view, few scowling backbenchers dared to confront, most judging it wiser to cavil. Before I left, only Nicholas Budgen (C, Wolverhampton SW), had really squared up to the prevailing wisdom. Whether or not you agreed with him, Mr Budgen's was a fine speech.

At his worst, this MP sounds like an intelligent goat quibbling over his tether; at his best, yesterday, he gathered real force. He said the guillotine was disgraceful; a guillotine agreed between front benches was "the worst sort — a lynch mob" treating "a significant and honourable minority of citizens without due consideration".

Instead, he said, Parliament should ask of the Dunblane parents whether "in their grief, in their anger, they may be mistaken". I saw a handful of Budgen's colleagues glance nervously up at the Strangers' Gallery. The Snowdrop technique works.

As I left, Mr Howard was explaining that a special dispensation will allow shooting competitions at the Commonwealth Games in 2002 — but British sportsmen will have to practise abroad.

These sportsmen should get on the phone now and book the Strangers' Gallery for the Third Reading of this Bill.

How the Mil-Tec trail led from Sussex to Sark

BY RICHARD DUCE, DANNY McGRORY, IAN MURRAY AND JON ASHWORTH

THE name Mil-Tec Corporation first emerged in a telephone call to a small accountancy firm on the Sussex coast in 1992. From there, the trail of the company which is alleged to have supplied arms to Rwanda leads through a travel agency in north London to the Isle of Man and on to the Channel Island of Sark.

The accountancy firm in Hove is headed by Vinod P. Dhiri, who has run it for the past 20 years, but the call which started everything was made to Ravinder Jain, who had then recently joined the firm.

Mr Jain said the call came "out of the blue" from Anoop Vidyarthi, whom he had met a few times on social occasions. Mr Vidyarthi allegedly told him he represented Mil-Tec Corporation Limited and asked if the firm would be prepared to do book-keeping work for the company. Mr Jain said yesterday: "He told us it was a general trading company and that was it. Nothing ever happened after that. We didn't provide any work for them and we didn't charge anything."

He produced a blue file from a grey cabinet at their brick-built, semi-detached office on the outskirts of the town centre. Inside was a single, hand-written sheet of paper noting an initial contact with Mil-Tec.

Mr Dhiri, who runs the practice with a third partner, Varinder Singh, said: "We were absolutely unaware that our address was being used. It doesn't worry me because we've done nothing wrong. But we are angry that our name has been used like this."

Mr Vidayari, 48, came to Britain from Nairobi. He runs a small travel agency from a first floor office in Vivian Road, Hendon. Associates say he also runs and import-export business from the same address and owns other properties in the block, including private flats and a number of shops, among them a school for aromatherapy.

His family is said to own a large printing factory in the Kenyan capital and Mr Vidayarthi makes regular trips to Africa where his associates in Travelour say he has "limited business interests".

Yesterday after reading reports of the alleged arms smuggling he told staff, "he was going away for a few days". A member of staff at the Travelour company, who refused to give his name over the office intercom, said: "Mr Vidayarthi was aware of the story, but did not make any comment about it. I don't know anything about guns or anything like that."

Travelour also lists a Mrs Anjana Vidayarthi as a director and advertises that it specialises in organising visas and travel arrangements to Africa.

At his home 800 yards away in Allington Road, a white-fronted, four-bedroomed, detached house — where neighbours say the family has lived since 1989 — the mail lay unopened on the front doormat.

Mil-Tec was registered in the Isle of Man as a company on February, 16, 1993. The original directors were John David Clarke and Bernard Galka, partners at the Isle of Man branch of BDO Binder, one of Britain's largest accountancy firms. Binder's address on the island is used by Mil-Tec for registration purposes.

"Binder's act in a general way as company formation agents," according to Helen Hatton, head of enforcement of the Isle of Man's Financial Supervision Commission.

> ❛ I found out more about the company from reading *The Times* today than I did all the time I was a director ❜

"They keep a stock of companies 'on the shelf' so that if someone wants to set up a company quickly they can respond immediately."

It costs £600 a year to register a company in this way and the main requirement by the Isle of Man authorities is that an annual return is sent on showing the names and addresses of the directors, officers and shareholders.

In the case of Mil-Tec, the annual returns were sent for 1994 and 1995, but the one due last February has not been received and the company may now be struck off.

BDO Binder said its duties had always been limited to secretarial services for the preparation and filing of statutory returns. It had no involvement or control over the management of the company.

In June 1993, two new directors were registered for the company: John Trevor Greer Donnelly, 41, and his father Trevor Robinson, who live together on Sark.

According to Mrs Hanson they are directors of "literally thousands of companies" in Britain, the Channel Islands, Ireland, the Turks and Caicos. John Donnelly holds 116 company direcrorships in Britain alone. "They are called facilitators," she said. "They stand as directors for companies without necessarily knowing what the company does."

John Donnelly is listed as company secretary with RMS Secretaries, a subsidiary of Binder, as associate secretary. The shareholders are Business Management Services Nominees and Business Management Second Nominees, two further companies run by Binder.

Mil-Tec is administered by Business Management Services Nominees; a directly-owned subsidiary of BDO Binder. The nominee companies act as shareholders for whoever the real owner of the company is and keep the name in confidence.

Although island authorites are not able to investigate Mil-Tec at present, they can do so at the request of British customs or police. British customs are waiting to see documents recovered in Rwanda before asking the authorities to obtain a production order requiring Binder to reveal who is behind the company.

Speaking from Sark yesterday, Mr Donnelly said that if he had known what business Mil-Tec was in, he would never have agreed to become a diretor. "I found out more about the company from reading *The Times* today than I did all the time I was a director," he said. "I am no longer a director. I told the company secretary to delete my name and that of my father."

Mr Donnelly would not explain why he had allowed his name to be used by a company about which he was so ignorant or why, as company secretary, he had failed to have his name taken off the register. "I am referring all this to my solicitor," he said. "He will speak for me about this in future."

A statement by the Isle of Man Financial Supervision Office said that Mil-Tec was not involved in operations which were regulated by them, but because the island government had been "concerned about some aspects of company formation for some time" it was working on a system to regulate company formation and management activity in order to deter abuse in this area.

The Mil-Tec saga poses an embarrassment to the Manx authorities. The island's reputation received a dent in 1984 when the Isle of Man Savings and Investment Bank was shut-down, losing depositors £42 million.

CHRIS EVANS

Michael Portillo, the Defence Secretary, believes that Britain's role may be to help to search for missing refugees

British artillery unit will go to Zaire to protect our forces

BY MICHAEL EVANS
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE battalion earmarked for relief work with refugees in Zaire will be protected by a British artillery unit as well as by armoured vehicles, Michael Portillo, the Defence Secretary, disclosed yesterday.

Under plans ready for Cabinet approval once the reconnaissance party has returned from the region tonight, an artillery battery equipped with 105mm light guns with a range of more than ten miles will be included in the force Britain expects to deploy to Zaire.

Unlike some nations now having second thoughts about sending troops after the massed return to Rwanda over the weekend of up to 500,000 refugees from camps in eastern Zaire, the Government appears convinced there is still a need to send a British force to the region, having received the latest intelligence about the remaining refugees.

In an interview with *The Times* yesterday, Mr Portillo said: "There has clearly been a significant change. Hundreds of thousands of refugees have left the Goma area and have gone across the border. But our best intelligence at the moment is that this movement has not spread to the other areas and there's a very large number of refugees unaccounted for. In the southern area around Bukavu where the British troops will go, there are some indications of movement but no suggestion of a mass movement.

"So it's premature for the international community to breathe a sigh of relief and to conclude that there's nothing to be done, because there are hundreds of thousands of refugees unaccounted for and we should assume that they will have been penetrated by the armed militia who may be restraining them from returning home as they might wish."

Although the final decision will be made after assessing the report from the 43-man reconnaissance party led by Brigadier Jonathan Thomson, of the Royal Marines, Mr Portillo envisaged that part of the British responsibility would be to search for the missing refugees. He saw the need for artillery "because the number one priority for me is to make sure our forces are properly protected". He added: "It's better to carry a proper deterrent and avoid the risk that someone will take you on than to go too lightly armed and risk an aggressor thinking that he can get the better of our forces".

Both 45 Commando Royal Marines and the 1st Battalion Parachute Regiment, the two units now on 72 hours' notice for Zaire, are trained to deploy with 105mm guns, which were also sent to protect troops in Bosnia.

Mr Portillo said the force he had in mind would be based on 1,000 "frontline" troops with additional support units. The force would not be insignificant, he emphasised. "It doesn't necessarily imply a huge force, but it will certainly mean we will have to be properly equipped. The whole deployment would take 21 days, but from an earlier stage "the first forces will be doing useful work". The first troops are scheduled to leave within 24 hours of final Cabinet approval to send a force to Zaire.

Countries planning to contribute troops to the mission are due to meet in Stuttgart tomorrow to review the force's size and mandate. Raymond Chrétien, the Canadian special envoy in Zaire, has said that a multinational humanitarian force was still needed in eastern Zaire.

Spring praises 'positive' Sinn Fein

BY AUDREY MAGEE
IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

THE Irish Deputy Prime Minister has backed Sinn Fein's stance on the peace process in Northern Ireland and said the republicans were "going in the right direction".

Dick Spring said the Sinn Fein leadership was trying to ensure there was another cessation of violence. A speech by Martin McGuinness, a leading member of the organisation, in Tralee, Co Kerry, was "significant and important".

Mr McGuinness said last week that any new ceasefire could not be treated in the same way as the 18-month cessation which ended last February when the IRA bombed London Docklands. Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Northern Ireland Secretary, replied that the Government was not looking for victory over the IRA.

Mr Spring, speaking in Dublin yesterday, said he had no information to suggest an IRA ceasefire was imminent. He said, however, that the republican political leadership was doing all it could to bring one about.

The upbeat and optimistic mood of the Irish Government is at odds with loyalists in Northern Ireland, who are concerned that the Government is shifting the entry requirements into the multi-party talks. Unionists have said that they will leave the talks, which resumed in Stormont yesterday, if the criteria for entry are shifted to suit Sinn Fein.

☐ A group of IRA suspects who claim the Irish Government is detaining them illegally yesterday began a legal battle for their release from prison. The men, including Brixton escapee Nessan Quinlivan, were released and rearrested earlier this month after an administrative mix-up. Quinlivan and 13 other men had their cases adjourned until next Monday. Quinlivan's lawyers will apply for bail later this week.

Belgian ministers

Continued from page 1

campaign. Mr Di Rupo said he was the victim of "an infernal machination".

"It is odious that I am being held responsible for acts of paedophilia in my private life ... I am not remotely involved in that type of thing," Mr Di Rupo said. However, he added that he welcomed the inquiry because it would give him the chance to clear his name against scurrilous allegations.

Mr de Grafé, a member of the French-speaking Christian Democrat party, deplored what he called "atrocious rumours" and said he would defend his honour to the end at any inquiry.

Herman De Croo, leader of the conservative VLD party, urged Mr Dehaene to make a public statement on the affair, which has been heightened by the intense emotion over the Dutroux case.

The failure of the authorities to put an end to Dutroux's activities have helped to shatter confidence in Belgium's institutions. Mr De Croo also called for action over unrelated corruption allegations, made by a senior legal official, against Karel Pinxten, the Agriculture Minister.

State prosecutors yesterday denied reports in the Flemish media that Mr Di Rupo or Mr de Grafé were connected with the seizure of pornographic video cassettes in a raid at a Brussels house on Friday. They confirmed, however, that two ministers, whom they did not name, had been cited in evidence in another investigation.

Le Soir, the main Brussels daily, and other newspapers yesterday reported that Mr Di Rupo's name appeared in statements to the Brussels police from an anonymous source. These gave details of the alleged conduct of politicians in the homosexual underworld of Brussels and cited under-age boys, *Le Soir* said. A spokesman for the High Court confirmed that two ministers' names appeared in an investigation.

"If it is necessary to question them, the normal procedure will be followed," he said. No request had been made to lift the parliamentary immunity of the ministers, the normal preliminary to a formal investigation, Belgian prosecutors said.

Mr Di Rupo, who has been a Deputy Prime Minister since 1994, earned sympathy among colleagues and the media yesterday for his forthright statement in which he acknowledged his unconventional private life.

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Man whose death led to riot 'robbed couple with knife'

By Michael Horsnell

A BLACK man whose death in police custody sparked a riot in Brixton last year had held a terrified couple at knifepoint in their bed shortly before his arrest, an inquest was told yesterday.

Kate Short, a 31-year-old primary school teacher, told the jury that an intruder woke her up in the middle of the night by shining a torch in her face. He brandished an 8in knife he had taken from her kitchen before demanding the personal identification numbers of bank cards he stole from her and her husband.

Mrs Short, who has been unable to work since the incident, said that he warned them he would return if they gave him bogus numbers and shouted: "I am going to come back and get you." Mrs Short said: "I was absolutely petrified. I thought he was going to stab us."

The inquest into the death of Wayne Douglas, 25, was told that he was arrested shortly after the robbery. Police chased him through a children's playground and took him into custody.

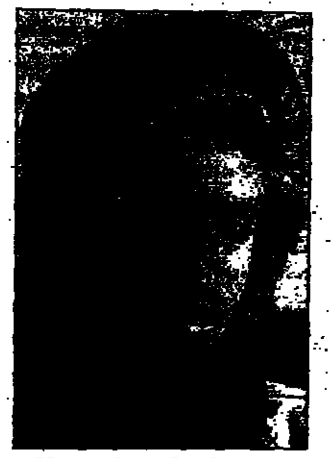
He was certified dead in hospital about two hours later, allegedly from a heart attack, although his friends and family maintain that he was beaten by police. A week later, a protest outside Brixton police station, in southwest London, led to hours of rioting and £1 million damage.

Sir Montague Levine, the South London Coroner, told a packed courtroom at Southwark Crown Court that he was aware "feelings have been running high", but added that, no matter how well-meaning were the organisations supporting Mr Douglas, the inquest should not become a political forum.

He told the jury, which includes three black members, that any attempts to harass or frighten them or witnesses should be reported to police. One woman juror was excused after she said she did not think she could cope with the case, and two others were allowed to leave after disclosing that they had police connections. Mr Douglas, an unemployed single man living in a hostel in southeast London, left school without qualifications. He was said to have had previous convictions for conspiracy to rob and for burglary, and to have served 18 months in prison.

His sister, Lisa, said police told her of his death 36 hours after it happened. They said that he had been struck on the wrist with a baton to make him drop his knife.

Mrs Short said that she and her husband, Justin, had gone to bed in their two-bedroom maisonette in Brixton shortly before midnight on the night of December 4. Their front door was fitted with Yale and Chubb locks, though only the Yale was locked. "At about 2.45am I awoke to see a shadow holding a torch to my face," she said.


Short: thought she was going to be stabbed

"A small light was in front of my face and I screamed. He told me to get the covers over my head in a loud voice. My husband said to him, 'What do you want?' in an angry manner. The man said, 'Get your head under the cover unless you want to get stabbed. I will stab you, you know.' I could see the knife in his right hand, waving it from side to side. I was in shock."

The intruder had asked if she had any jewellery, to which she had replied that she had none of value. He then took bank cards belonging to her and her husband, demanding the Pin numbers. "I was in such a panic I couldn't remember it," Mrs Short said. "He became even more angry and agitated. He shouted, 'You know the number.' I blurted out the real number. I was absolutely petrified. I thought he was going to stab us."

Her husband had given the man a bogus number for his bank card. The intruder had said: "I could stab you if you have given me the wrong numbers. I am going to come back and get you." He escaped with about £50, two bank cards and a NatWest cashpoint card, as well as a video recorder, threatening as he left to draw £500 from their accounts.

While his wife dialled 999 from a bedside telephone, Mr Short ran downstairs to check windows and doors, but there was no sign of forced entry. Mrs Short described the intruder as black, aged 20 to 25, with a Jamaican accent — "heavy on the rasta-sounding lilt" — and said he was "very menacing and intimidating", with staring eyes.

She was asked by the coroner when she was made aware that the man who had entered the bedroom had died. She said police had informed her later that day. She showed signs of distress while giving evidence, but was told by the coroner to have "no fears about repercussions".

Mr Short, an advertising sales executive, said that during the ordeal he heard the intruder unzip his wallet and at one stage felt him prod him in the chest with either his hand or the knife while demanding the card numbers. "Throughout I felt very threatened and scared he was going to attack ... This has had a devastating effect on my wife."

Earlier, Lisa Douglas-Williams said that her brother had suffered depression after the stillbirth of his girlfriend's baby. She said that there was no history of heart disease in the Douglas family.

The hearing continues today.

Michael Knighton in the boardroom at Carlisle and, below, heading the ball at Old Trafford during a £40 million bid for Manchester United

Aliens cause football chief's downfall

By Paul Wilkinson

THE chairman and chief executive of Carlisle United Football Club is stepping down after a newspaper disclosed his belief that aliens spoke to him from their spacecraft above the M62.

Michael Knighton thinks no one will take him seriously after details of what has since been dubbed "a close encounter of the Third Division kind" were published in the *Carlisle News and Star* under the headline "Knighton: Aliens spoke to me". He said: "I am not prepared to have my nine-year-old son Rory taunted with 'Your dad speaks to ET.' I can see the funny side to it, but there is also a serious side and it is a great shame."

Keith Sutton, editor of the *News and Star*, said he was now starting a campaign to keep Mr Knighton at the club. "The fact that he sighted a UFO on the M62 doesn't disqualify him from being the chairman. He has done a lot for the city and the club."

Mr Knighton said he had told the story in the strictest confidence, which the paper had broken. The sighting happened in 1977 as he was driving on the M62 with his wife, Rosemary, and saw strange lights in the sky.

The paper quoted him as saying: "The bright dot became a triangle and shot down from the sky at an incredible speed. It then turned into a glowing disc which hovered above a petrol station at about the height of Nelson's Column. It was amazing." They watched the light for about 30 minutes.

Then, moments before the shape sped off, he heard a voice inside his head which told him: "Michael, don't be afraid." He said: "I was so excited. It was just the most incredible experience. For seven years after that I spent time UFO spotting. I just wish I could come in contact again."

Mr Knighton, 45, a property millionaire, was previously known for his unsuccessful attempt to buy Manchester United in 1989, when he was photographed juggling a football on the Old Trafford pitch. He failed to secure backers for his £40 million bid.

Vicar scarred by gay lover pledges chastity

A VICAR who was scarred permanently when his homosexual lover slashed him in the face and neck with a scalpel after reportedly seeing "a vision" has returned to work in his parish, vowing to lead a celibate life.

The Rev Nigel Asbridge, of the Holy Innocents, in Hornsey, north London, needed more than 200 stitches after the attack by Steven Barber, 36, a nurse.

Barber was yesterday sent to a secure psychiatric hospital indefinitely after he admitted causing Mr Asbridge grievous bodily harm in December last year. He was suffering from a psychopathic disorder which "interacted with his difficulties in coping with relationships", the Old Bailey was told.

The Rev Rob Harrison, a spokesman for the Bishop of Edmonton, said of Mr Asbridge after the hearing: "His congregation has been very supportive throughout. There is no question he is a practising homosexual. He is committed to the principle that homosexual clergy should aim to lead celibate lives. He admits he has made a mistake and has paid dearly for it."

Mr Asbridge, 38, had tried to disarm Barber when he called at his home, complaining that the vicar was giving him nightmares and threatening to kill himself. Peter Walsh, for the prosecution, said that Barber then told Mr Asbridge he was going to kill him and struck him with the scalpel on the top of the head. The vicar ran to the door, but in panic could not open it. Barber then slashed Mr Asbridge across the forehead and down the nose and both lips, into the neck. Barber appeared in court yesterday bearing neck scars where he tried to cut himself from ear to ear.

Mr Asbridge was introduced in 1993 to Barber, who had told him he was depressed and wanted someone to talk to, Mr Walsh said. "It developed into an emotional and sexual relationship." But during a holiday in Greece in 1994, Barber became violent towards the vicar. Mr Asbridge had the impression that Barber had Aids and was going to die, so he took a sympathetic attitude, the court was told.

After his arrest, Barber said he had gone to the vicar's home intending to commit suicide. "He said he had a vision and there was no other option but to kill himself," Mr Walsh said.

Life for admirer who turned killer

By Kathryn Knight

A FARMWORKER who killed a stablegirl in a jealous rage was jailed for life yesterday. Stephen Webber, a bachelor who was not normally aggressive, had showered Jessie Hurlstone with gifts but she wanted him only as a platonic friend and started to date another man.

Webber, 39, bludgeoned her 30 times around the head with an iron hook at the stables at Buckfastleigh, Devon, where she worked for Richard Frost, the National Hunt trainer.

A jury at Exeter Crown Court found him guilty of murder. Sentencing him to life imprisonment, Mr Justice Rougier said: "However that girl treated you, it was no excuse or mitigation for battering the life out of her in this terrible act of revenge. The very fact of this terrible killing shows there must be in you a capacity for horrible violence."

Just three weeks before her death, Miss Hurlstone, 27, had told her mother Caroline and stepfather Terry how much she was enjoying her life at the stables where she had worked for five years. Outside court, Mr Hurlstone said he was discussing with Frost family the possibility of naming a race after his daughter at the Devon and Exeter racecourse.

Mr Hurlstone said: "She had found a job that for her was paradise on earth. She lived with horses night and day, and was a very accomplished rider."

The court had been told how Webber, became possessive and angry when Miss Hurlstone began seeing James Pearce, 49, in the fortnight before she was killed. On the night of her death she had spent an evening in the pub with Mr Pearce. Webber broke into her caravan through the window and bludgeoned her to death.

Jessie Hurlstone: race may be named after her

Murderer escapes through window

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Correspondent

A MURDERER serving a life sentence for killing a young policeman was on the run yesterday after escaping from a secure psychiatric ward with the help of an accomplice.

Peter Loveday, 38, was jailed in 1979 after battering to death PC Christopher McDonald, 19, in Worksop, Nottinghamshire, as he fled from an attempted burglary. At the time of the murder he was on the run from borstal.

Kent police said yesterday that Loveday had escaped from the Crofton Clinic, part of Bexley Hospital in southeast London. He was not considered dangerous but the public should not approach him.

As the hospital began a security review, it became clear that the escape was carefully planned. Senior staff said Loveday had pretended to go for a bath late on Sunday night. He had locked himself in the bathroom and jammed the lock mechanically, or with superglue, so that it could not be over-ridden. He had switched on a radio and ran the taps so that nurses believed there was nothing wrong.

The noise masked the work of an accomplice, who was making an escape route through the reinforced window of the ground floor bathroom. Loveday crawled through the 3ft square gap, dropped to the ground and climbed over a 10ft perimeter fence with a ladder provided by the accomplice. Staff believe the two then escaped in a car.

Last night Stephen Firn, director of nursing at the hospital, said the escape "was very well planned with outside help". Security would be reviewed.

He said the 15-bed ward was graded as a medium secure unit, which meant that the exits were locked and there were additional measures such as the reinforced windows. The security measures met Home Office standards but the ward was not meant to be escape-proof as the patients were not considered dangerous.

Loveday had been in the ward for about a year after being transfered from another hospital. He had been moved from prison because it was thought he might harm himself. Mr Firn said that while he was in the ward, Loveday had not caused any problems or been violent.

Lottery win ruined life for neighbours

By Paul Wilkinson

A LOTTERY win turned a pleasant couple into neighbours who made life a nightmare, the man who used to live next door to them said yesterday. Wendy and Neil Norris annoyed other people in their quiet residential street with late-night drinks parties after Mrs Norris, a British Airways stewardess, won almost £350,000 last year.

Finally, just before bonfire night last year, her husband fought with Adam O'Donohue, who lived next door in Stalybridge, Greater Manchester, over some noisy fireworks. In the struggle Norris thrust a beer glass in his face.

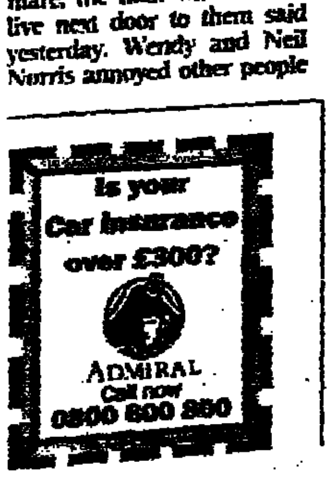
The attack left Mr O'Donohue, 30, a purchasing controller, scarred from a five-inch wound. He still needs treatment for the injury. Yesterday Norris, a warehouse manager, pleaded guilty at Minshull Street Crown Court, Manchester, to unlawful wounding. He will be sentenced on Friday. He had pleaded not guilty to an alternative charge of wounding with intent to cause grievous bodily harm. The charge was ordered to lie on file. Norris was released on conditional bail while pre-sentence reports are prepared.

No evidence was given during the 15-minute hearing but after the case was adjourned Mr O'Donohue, a father of two, described how Norris had been a pleasant neighbour. "After they won the lottery he just became worse and worse. They used to stay up late drinking but after they won all that money they were at it every night."

Mr O'Donohue has since moved to Accrington, Lancashire. The Norrises have since bought a bungalow in Failsworth, Greater Manchester.

On November 3 last year Mr Norris began letting off mortar-type fireworks. Mr O'Donohue's wife, Justine, 26, complained about the noise which was upsetting the couple's twins, James and Mollie, aged three.

Mr O'Donohue said: "He bought these huge fireworks for about £30 each just to show off. They were going off right outside the twins' bedroom and they started screaming. I went upstairs to calm them down and Justine went to complain. As I came back down the stairs Norris was hanging on the front windows. I went out to see what was wrong and he started acting violently."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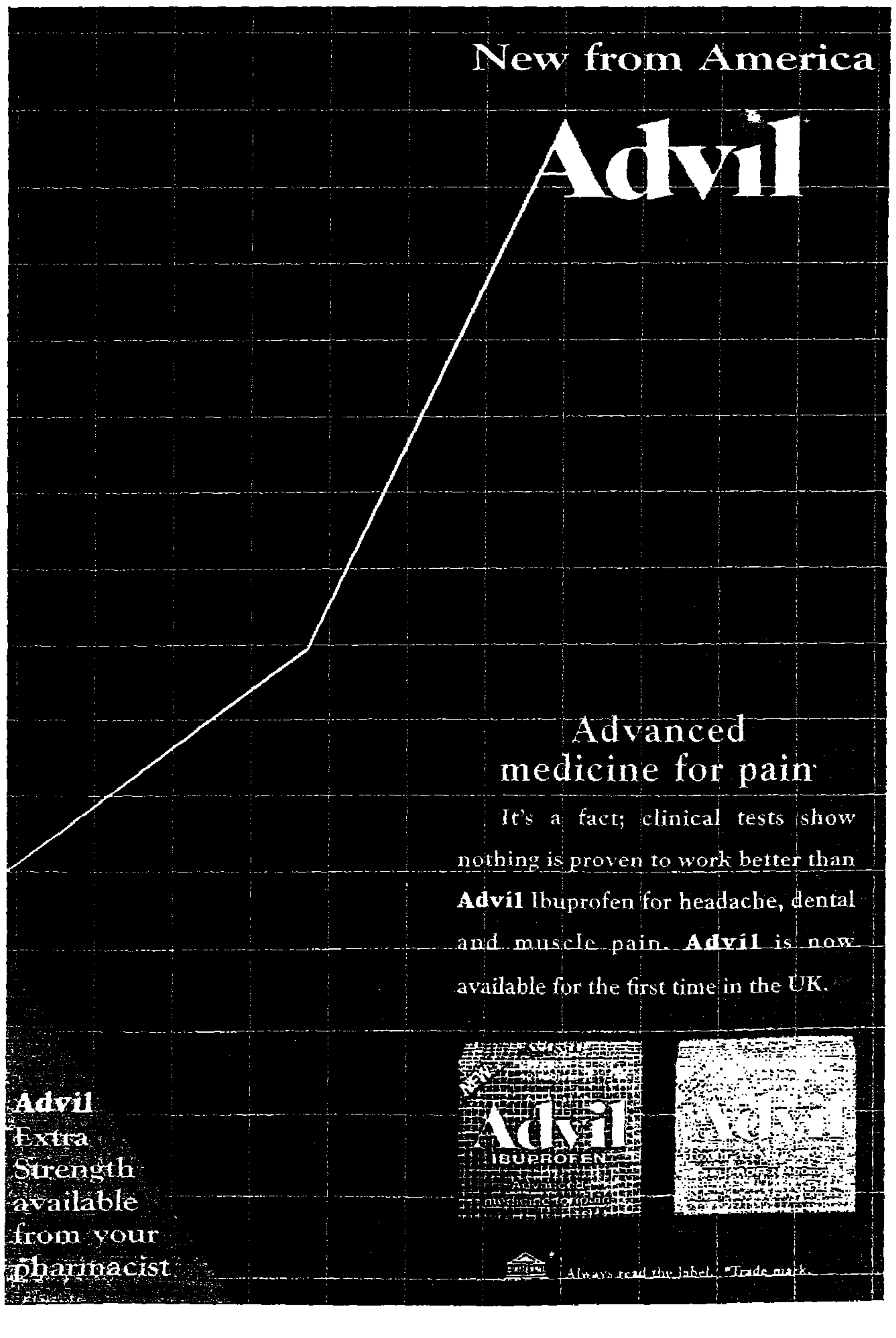
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Prescott defends fund for Blair, but fails to declare his own

By Andrew Pierce, political correspondent

JOHN PRESCOTT, who yesterday defended the secret £500,000 fund set up to pay Tony Blair's office expenses, has a similar private account, it was disclosed last night.

Mr Prescott denied in a BBC radio interview that he was embarrassed by the revelation of the hundreds of thousands of pounds that have poured into Mr Blair's office in undisclosed donations.

However, he omitted to mention the John Prescott Campaign Research Trust, which *The Times* has learnt is an important financial contributor to his Deputy Labour Leader's office. The names of the donors are a closely guarded secret. Even Mr Prescott's closest aides do not know how much money is in the account, a "blind trust" in which the identity of the donors is concealed to prevent accusations of cash for favours.

Gordon Brown, the Shadow Chancellor, also receives financial assistance towards his office costs from the Industrial Research Trust, a third blind fund operated by the Labour Party. The blind accounts were set up by the Labour leadership after taking advice from barristers.

It had been reported that Sir Gordon Downey, the Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards who approved the formation of the accounts, was planning to refer the trusts to the Commons Privileges Committee. Lord Nolan, who was appointed by John Major to monitor standards in public life, yesterday said the issue should be investigated after the general election.

Party political funding was not covered by the remit for his committee but Lord Nolan told Classic FM: "Aspects of it clearly would be, because if you're paying money to a party in return for favours, that is by any reckoning misconduct of the kind which is up to us to talk about."

Lord Nolan said that it would not be wise to examine it now. "We have operated as an all-party, or as I prefer to say, a non-party committee, so we think that after the election will be the time to look at it."

Labour publishes the names of donors who give more than £5,000 to party funds. But it has waived the rule for the office costs of Mr Blair, Mr Prescott and Mr Brown. Officials said yesterday that identical accounts were in place under John Smith's leadership.

Mr Prescott, interviewed on Radio 4's *The World at One*, said that there was a difference between donations to the party and individual MPs. "It is crucially important that the leader is not aware of any funding contributions coming in to his actual office."

Brian Mawhinney, the Tory Party chairman, said: "We have always taken the view that people have the right to privacy if they wish to offer funds to political parties."

Ex-boxer who saves babies by giving blood

By Shirley English

ALAN SIMPSON

Frank O'Donnell with Ryan Cook, whose life he saved

A FORMER boxing champion is the only man in Scotland who naturally produces an antidote to a rare disease which is fatal to babies. For the past ten years, doctors in Glasgow have been taking blood from Frank O'Donnell, 57, from Castlemilk, Strathclyde, to make an anti-D vaccine against haemolytic disease.

The disease occurs when mothers and babies have incompatible blood groups which lead the mother's body to reject the foetus. So far Mr O'Donnell's blood, in which anti-D antibodies occur naturally, has saved around 20,000 babies. Yesterday, as he gave his 400th pint in ten years, he met some of those who he helped to keep alive at Queen Mother's Hospital, Glasgow.

Dianne Cook, whose son, Ryan Gregory, was treated last week, said: "Frank is a champion life-saver. My baby would not be alive without him."

It was a serious accident almost 30 years ago which gave Mr O'Donnell the ability to produce the vital antibody. He was working as a crane driver in 1968 when he fell 45 feet. He is O Rhesus negative, but he lost so much blood after the fall that the hospital ran out of supplies and had to give him Rhesus positive blood.

Mr O'Donnell said: "It was a case of kill or cure. In time, the Rhesus positive transfusion caused me to produce the anti-D antibody naturally."

The father of five, who has nine grandchildren, added: "I believe I was saved after the accident for a reason. The reason was that my blood can save babies' lives. I never miss giving my pint."

NEWS IN BRIEF

CPS considers case against editor's wife

Police investigating allegations of theft and handling stolen goods against Anita Monk, wife of *The Express* deputy editor Ian Monk, yesterday passed the papers to the Crown Prosecution Service. The move came as Richard Addis, the Editor, confirmed he was holding an inquiry into the affair, which centres on allegations that a woman tried to sell a pre-publication copy of Allan Starkie's biography of the Duchess of York, *Fergie: Her Secret Life*.

Chief Inspector Ken Wise confirmed that Mrs Monk, 52, from Fulmer, Buckinghamshire, was not required to answer police bail at Uxbridge police station yesterday. "The case is still being investigated. It is a complicated issue and the advice of the Crown Prosecution Service is being sought," he said. "Depending on whatever their advice is, she will or will not have to come back at some date in the future."

Last month Mr Addis and Andrew Marr, Editor of *The Independent*, announced a joint initiative to raise ethical standards in journalism. Sources at *The Express* confirmed Mr Addis was deeply embarrassed by events. Mr Addis said yesterday: "Ian Monk is still deputy editor, he is still working here and he is still in the building. We can say nothing about the outcome of our inquiries into the events of the last few days until they are all concluded."

IRA ambush foiled

An IRA landmine ambush designed to kill members of the security forces was foiled at the weekend, police in Londonderry said yesterday. An RUC spokesman said officers uncovered a command wire that was to be used in the attack on the outskirts of the city, less than a mile from the border with the Irish Republic. Two men were being questioned last night.

Widow wins damages

A fireman's widow who saw her husband fall 100ft to his death when a faulty ladder collapsed at a training session won six-figure compensation at the High Court yesterday. Lesley Taylor, 35, of Newquay, has suffered post-traumatic stress disorder since the death of her husband Stephen, 31, in 1990, and sued for neligence. Cornwall County Council admitted liability.

Convictions quashed

A man awarded £50,000 after the West Midlands Serious Crime Squad handcuffed him and put a plastic bag over his head during interviews had his convictions quashed by the Court of Appeal. Derek Treadaway, 51, was jailed for 15 years by Leicester Crown Court on March 10, 1983, for robbery and conspiracy to rob. His case was referred to the appeal court after the award of damages on July 28, 1994.

Brady loses privacy bid

Ian Brady, the Moors murderer, failed in an attempt at the Court of Appeal to challenge *The Sun*'s right to publish a photograph of him taken with a telephoto lens at Ashworth psychiatric hospital, Merseyside. The judges upheld a decision by the Press Complaints Commission that publication did not warrant censure and rejected Brady's application for permission to seek a judicial review.

Best novels reread

Beryl Bainbridge's book *Every Man for Himself* has been shortlisted in the best novel category of the Whitbread Prize, along with the book that beat her to the Booker Prize last month, Graham Swift's *Last Orders*. Seamus Deane, whose *Reading in the Dark* was initially a favourite for the Booker, was placed on the Whitbread's First Novel Award shortlist.

CORRECTIONS

☐ Mr Andrew Barclay was not Governor of Whitemoor Prison at the time of the breakout of IRA prisoners in 1994 (report, November 4); he had moved to another post five months before that incident.

☐ The RSPCA spent £6,292,000 on fundraising in 1995, and 9.51 per cent of annual income on administration. We regret the incorrect figures in a report in some editions of August 23.

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D46

Additional Service on Channel 5

Advertisement of Licence

The Independent Television Commission is today, 19 November, inviting applications for a licence to provide the additional service using spare capacity on Channel 5. The service could take several forms as explained in the Invitation to Apply, but the one most familiar to the general public would be a teletext service.

The licence will be for a term of 10 years and will be awarded by competitive tender. The licence provides for a seven day a week operation during the hours for which Channel 5 is broadcast.

The Invitation to Apply specifies the terms and conditions relating to the provision of the additional service on Channel 5, together with the draft licence, and is available from the *Secretary to the Independent Television Commission, 33 Foley Street, London, W1P 7LB.* A number of relevant documents are listed in the Invitation to Apply and can be obtained from the ITC's Information Office at the same address.

Applications addressed to the Secretary to the Commission giving information on the form specified in the Invitation to Apply, together with the application fee of £20,000, must reach the ITC at 33 Foley Street not later than noon on 28 February 1997.

ITC

Independent Television Commission

صكنا من الاجل

Police use New York strategy to get crime off streets

By Stewart Tendler
Crime Correspondent

SCOTLAND YARD has launched a "zero tolerance" campaign to clear away beggars, drunks, pickpockets and vandals from some of London's roughest streets.

Yesterday the first of 25 officers who make up a special team under Operation Zero Tolerance took to the streets around King's Cross. Another operation is under way in south London and the Yard is also planning to test a technique developed in New York of using computers to identify and target crime hotspots.

A team of officers led by Brian Hayes, the Deputy Commissioner of Metropolitan Police, spent five days in New York earlier this year when they examined a "can-do" policing revolution launched by Bill Brattan, the New York Police Commissioner at the time.

Crime fell substantially as Mr Brattan's officers were told to refuse to tolerate any offences, no matter how minor. He argued that checking up on petty offenders often provided intelligence on more serious crime.

As the King's Cross team mustered yesterday, Superintendent Ken Duncan said: "The message is that antisocial behaviour is not acceptable. No crime, no matter how trivial, will be tolerated in the King's Cross area." He said people should not be subjected to drunks, vandals, addicts and prostitutes.

Mr Duncan said that petty crime made people feel the area was degenerating and getting rid of the crime would make local people feel better and safer. Police will not necessarily arrest all offenders, but sometimes warn them off or see them out of the area.

The operation will run until Christmas. An anti-drug drive is being started by British Transport Police at the station.

Yesterday police in south London began extending an operation undertaken last month when a dozen officers concentrated on an 800-yard stretch of Peckham High Street in an attempt to move crack cocaine dealers and restore public confidence. Officers have been told to enforce minor laws and curb drunks, cycling on the footways and obstruction by traders. They have been told to report litter and graffiti to the local authority as well as monitoring pubs and clubs.

In the first few weeks police made 30 arrests and yesterday Detective Chief Inspector John Goode said that drug dealing in the area had stopped.

Leading article, page 17

Trainspotters try new line to shed nerdy look

MARTIN BEDDALL

Traditional look: Alan Worthington at Clapham Junction in anorak, woollen hat and sweater

By Jonathan Prynn and Damian Whitworth

A NEW image for rail enthusiasts was launched yesterday. They are fashionable, they are romantic and they are definitely not the sort of people who follow the nerd.

A £20,000 campaign to free them from ridicule invokes the names of famous enthusiasts such as Rod Stewart, Cher, Jools Holland and Victoria Wood. It has even commissioned designs for a modern outfit to replace the classic trainspotters' anorak.

However, the fashion idea was on the wrong track for spotters standing in the teeth-chattering chill at the end of platform nine at Clapham Junction yesterday. Their immediate response was: What's wrong with an anorak?

The campaign has been organised by the National Railway Museum in York. Jo Beckerley, a spokeswoman, said they wanted to highlight the fact that there was a wide range of "normal" people with a healthy interest in trains, heavily outnumbering the obsessive spotters. Celebrities interested in trains are being invited to back the project — and those who don't give support may be "outed" as closet enthusiasts.

"We are saying that not all railway fans are the same: they are not all sad, they do not all stand at the end of platforms," she said. "There is glamour and romance there. Think of the Orient Express, think of *Brief Encounter* — goodness, if you don't cry at that, you've no heart."

The campaign will include posters, a detailed social survey of Britain's two million enthusiasts — and the new fashion designs, which were said to combine the Britpop look with practical needs such as big pockets.

> ❛ If you hit balls into holes, that's socially acceptable, but if you watch trains, you are a head case ❜

Murray Brown, co-editor of *Rail Express* magazine, said the image problem was very unfair: "If your hobby is hitting balls into holes you can't see, or sitting by the river in the rain catching fish, that is socially acceptable. But if you stand at Crewe station watching trains, you are branded as a head case."

The clothes designers for the museum travelled to Paris fashion shows to research the latest materials, using bright colours to make them more attractive to young people. The designs, launched initially as limited edition outfits for the Sindy and Paul dolls, are to be featured in style magazines. Shiralee Mccornack, one of the designers, said: "The jackets were influenced by the Mod parka but we have done it in a very bright orange to increase visibility."

Over at Clapham Junction, Alan Worthington, 37, from Southall, sported a heavy-duty industrial Alexander anorak. Not so much a garment as a mobile home, it holds notebooks, pens, timetables, camera, binoculars, gloves and sandwiches. He also wore an Arran sweater, bright red woolly hat and sunglasses.

He said: "I really don't care if people poke fun and call me an anorak, that's up to them. I can give as good as I get. But there's no need for it. Just because we break the norm a bit, people don't understand us. What's wrong with standing on a station? It's better than beating up grannies. Hang on a minute, was that the 59?"

The new line: the design features bright colours with elements of the Paris fashions and Britpop

User's guide to a life without TV

By Carol Midgley

A NEW publication for people who yearn for life without the curse of television was launched outside Westminster Abbey yesterday.

The White Dot is a newsletter which argues that the population should be "meeting people and falling in love" during their leisure time rather than staring at an electronic box. It claims that it reflects increasing concern about the damaging effects of too much television.

David Burke, its editor, a computer analyst from Brighton, said he had already received 40 letters of support. "Statistics suggest 1 per cent of British households have no television in a population of 50 million. That could be 500,000 people. I think they are out there. They just don't know anyone else like them."

He added: "We are not against culture. We are just against sitting around staring at a piece of furniture for eight years of your waking life. I don't want people to have a life of the mind; I just want them to have a life. Children who watch more than four hours a day have been shown to be withdrawn and distant from their peers and more likely to think that life is meaningless."

☐ *The White Dot* (PO Box 2166, Hove, East Sussex, BN3 3LR; £10 for one year)

If Canada has its way seal pup coats will be back in the shops shortly.

About 75%* of the 268,921** seals killed in Canada last spring were seal pups, just days or weeks old. Many of them were "whitecoat" or "blueback" baby seals whose pelts are valued in the fur trade. The EU has banned the importation of these pelts, but now the International fur dealers are working behind the scenes to have this ban lifted. MP's and EuroMP's are already resisting this pressure, now we need your help.

S.O.S. Sign On for Seals - add your name to IFAW's campaign against cruelty and receive an information pack.

IFAW

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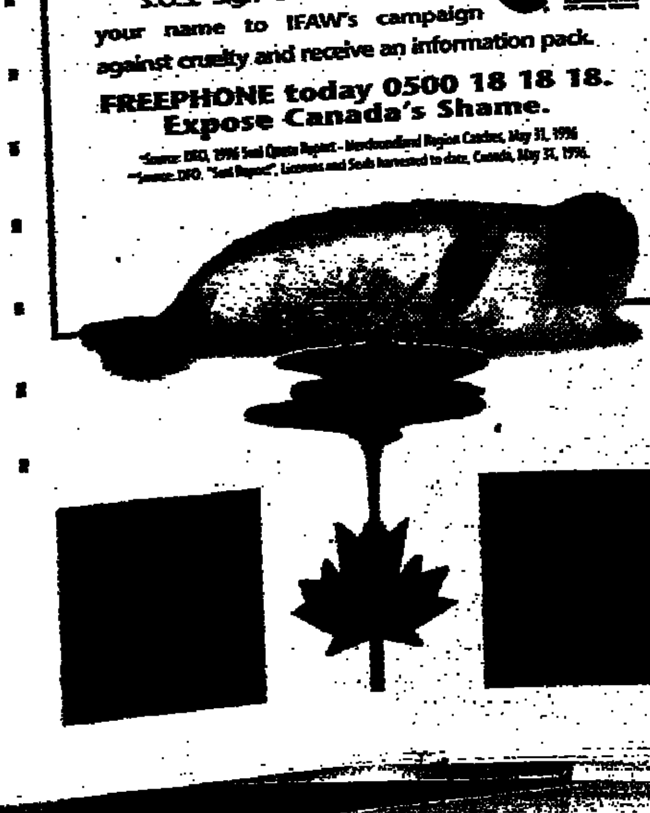
Expose Canada's Shame.

*Source: DFO, 1996 Seal Quota Report - Newfoundland Region Catches, May 31, 1996
**Source: DFO, "Seal Report", Licences and Seals harvested to date, Canada, May 31, 1996.



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£30m 'jambuster' plan to keep Britain moving

By Kevin Eason, motoring editor

;CHEME to control the ' of cars and lorries on or roads, diverting traffic s before they form, could vorking within three years. he Government uncovered ıs yesterday for a ground-:d version of air traffic :rol, with information cen- redirecting vehicles away n congested routes to clear-'oads. Private companies being asked to submit ɔosals on how to set up, l and operate the £30 mil- scheme.

he Government admitted , with traffic expected to ble by 2025, drivers are kely to see the back of fic jams. John Watts, the nsport Minister, said: "I 't believe we have found a acea for congestion and I bt whether we ever will."

nree regional centres will k the movement of cars, ies and buses along 6,500 :s of motorway and trunk ls across the country. Each l will be lined with sensors · to detect when traffic is ing and building into a . The electronic informa- will be beamed to the onal control centre, which then put warnings on lside signs and alert local o stations, suggesting al- ative routes.

pdates will be by the nd, but how much infor- ion drivers get will be ted by their willingness to All motorists will be able ee the roadside electronic el signs and listen to radio ıdcasts, but if they want to receive more detailed information, they will have to pay extra.

Mr Watts sees the scheme becoming a sophisticated travel guidance system, so that drivers can switch from road to rail or air if they believe they can speed up their journeys. Drivers who discovered the road ahead was blocked could key into an onboard computer to find their nearest rail station with parking and services to their destination, allowing them to abandon the car and take the train. Those who acted early could find out if their route was congested before they set off by calling up information from one of the three regional centres.

Lawrie Haynes, chief executive of the Highways Agency, said: "We want to monitor conditions more effectively and to improve the quality of information passed on to the motorist. We want to give advance warning of congestion, more reliable journey times and less frustration."

The Government, which is instigating the scheme under the private finance inititiative, has given interested companies until March to make suggestions. The busiest routes would be covered first and the Highways Agency has already identified those on which the biggest benefits would be felt.

Doubts persist that even such a sophisticated information system as that envisaged will be able to deal with projected traffic levels, particularly at a time when spending on new roads has been almost eliminated by government cuts. Mr Haynes said the roads system was an asset that would have to work harder to cope with increased traffic.

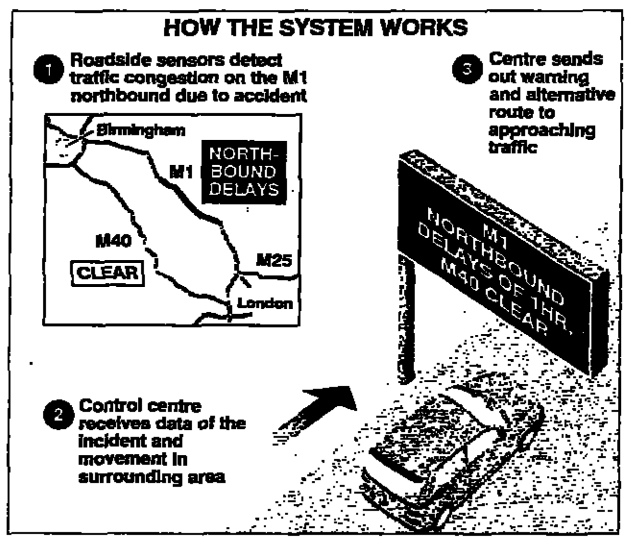
The new scheme is designed to that end. Drivers travelling from Kent on the M20, for example, along the busiest networks to the Midlands, could be told in advance that a blockage on the M40 made the M1 a better bet for the trip; or warned that there were hold-ups on the M25, allowing drivers to decide which would be the best direction to drive round the circular motorway.

At the moment, the only way drivers can be sure of finding out about traffic jams ahead is to subscribe to TrafficMaster, the privately owned motorway information system that has 2,500 sensors placed on bridges over thousands of miles of motorway. The nationwide system costs £149 to instal and there is a £110-a-year line rental. A cheaper system that provides information on conditions up to ten miles ahead costs £79.99.

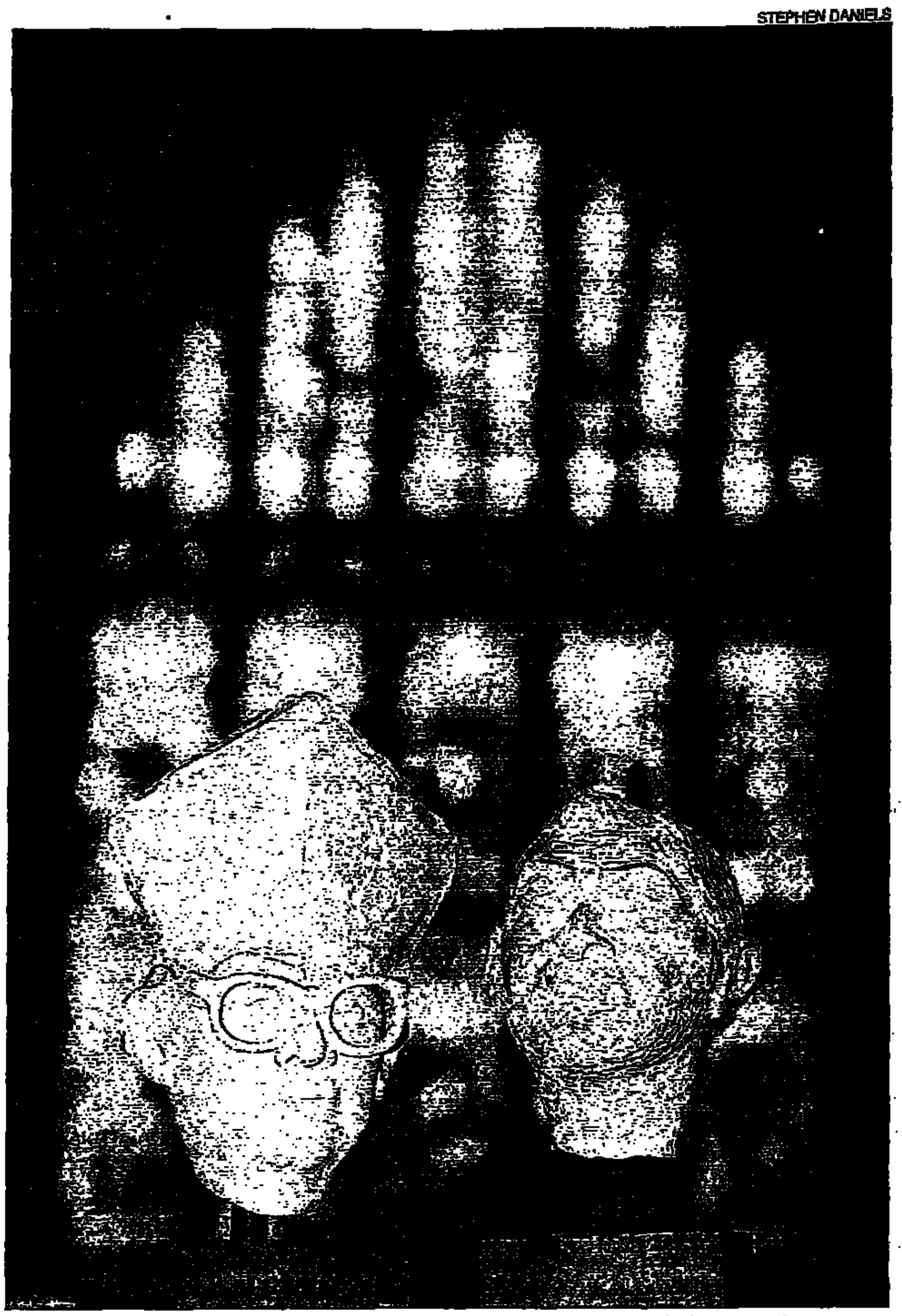
Some carmakers are building in computerised route-finding devices that could work well with the new early warning system. Vauxhall already offers TrafficMaster as an option, while BMW and Ford are among the first to put route-finders in their cars.

Leading article, page 17

HOW THE SYSTEM WORKS


① Roadside sensors detect traffic congestion on the M1 northbound due to accident
Birmingham
M1
NORTH-BOUND DELAYS
M40
CLEAR
M25
London
② Control centre receives data of the incident and movement in surrounding area
③ Centre sends out warning and alternative route to approaching traffic
M1 NORTHBOUND DELAYS OF 1HR. M40 CLEAR

STEPHEN DANIELS



The carvings of Bishop Westwood and Canon Caddick will look down on the nave

Living gargoyles get court backing

By Robin Young

IT IS ecclesiastically acceptable to caricature living clergymen as gargoyles, a church court decided yesterday.

Judge Coningsby, QC, Chancellor of the diocese of Peterborough, released an 87-page judgment yesterday settling a dispute that has riven the congregation of the 13th-century church of St Peter's in Oundle, Northamptonshire.

The dispute centred on a plan proposed by the local schoolteacher to install two 6in-high heads of the former Bishop of Peterborough, the Right Rev Bill Westwood, and the recently retired vicar of the parish, Canon Lloyd Caddick, atop two 14ft pillars in the nave. Yesterday's judgment followed a seven-hour consistory court hearing held in the church last month.

Some parishioners claimed that it was wrong to commemorate living clergy in that way. Allegations of idolatry and papism flew, while other objectors described the scheme as a scandal, a disgrace or a calumny.

A secret ballot showed that a third of the congregation opposed the scheme. Canon Caddick was criticised by some people as "too academic" and "too much a theologian, not enough a parish priest". One leading objector said: "It is entirely inappropriate. What would happen if they should fall from grace?"

The judge ruled firmly against the objectors yesterday, concluding that there was no legal, aesthetic or other reason against the plan. His report, however, criticises both sides for mishandling the argument to such an extent that a court hearing before a Crown Court judge was required to resolve it.

Graham Gent, 49, a leading objector, said that he accepted the ruling but still believed it was not right to honour living people in a church.

Church asks for millions to save heritage

By Ruth Gledhill
religion correspondent

THE Church of England is seeking up to £50 million from the Government to save its historic buildings for the next millennium.

Parishioners are now paying an annual repair bill of £100 million, but they are also being asked to pay more than ever before towards clergy stipends. This means that the annual round of jumble sales, fêtes and coffee mornings is no longer enough.

Nearly 13,000 of the Church of England's buildings are listed as of special architectural or historical interest, attracting 30 million visitors a year. Forty per cent of grade-one listed buildings are ecclesiastical.

English Heritage is giving about £11 million a year in grants for repairs to parish churches and chapels, and £3.9 million to cathedrals. The Heritage Lottery Fund has also given nearly £10 million to historic places of worship. But in 1993, the VAT alone on repairs to listed churches and cathedrals was £16 million.

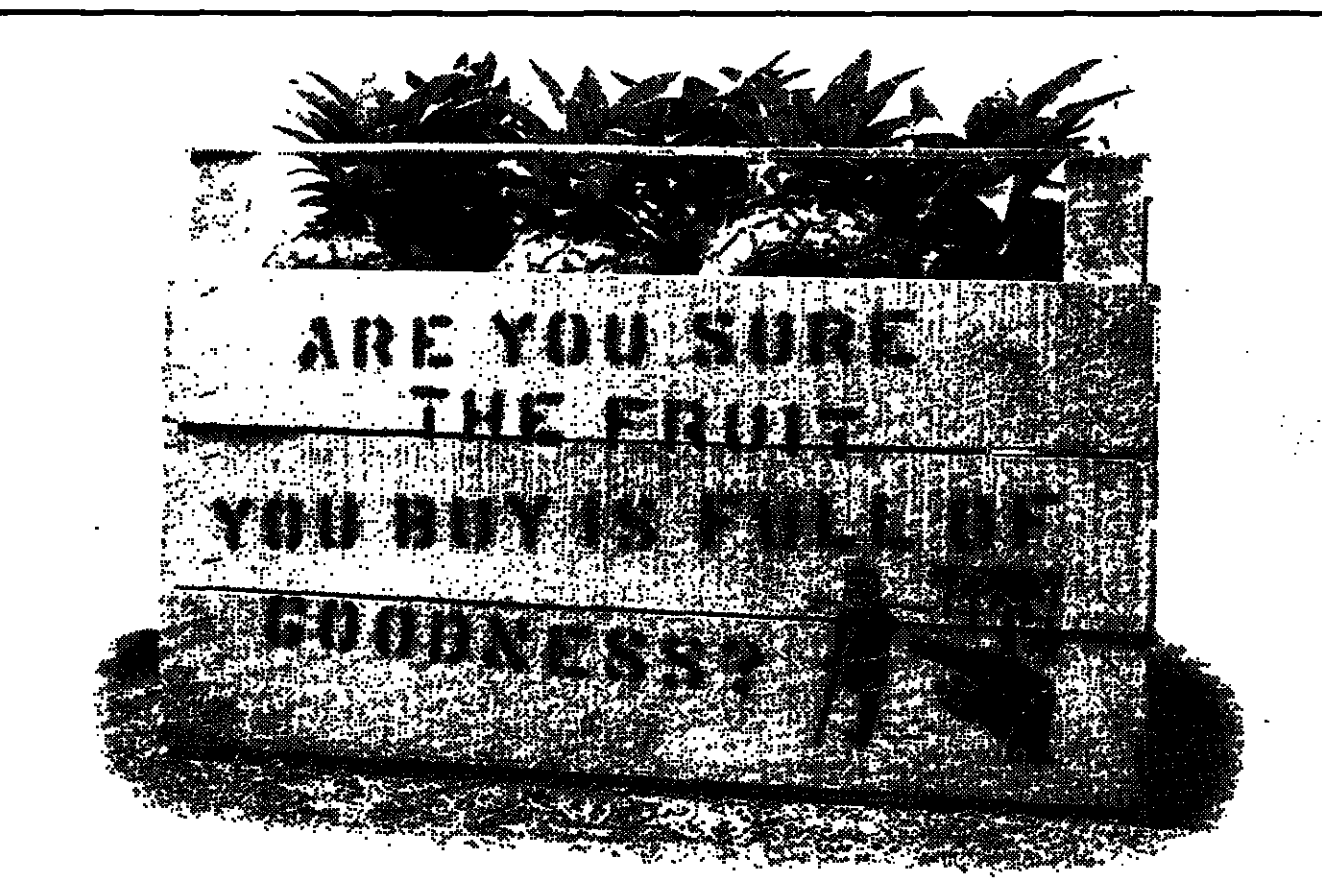
Yesterday a new report, *Developing the partnership between Church and State over the ecclesiastical heritage*, said that only the Government had the means to convert the nation's love of church buildings into material support.

One problem is that populations shifts in areas such as Suffolk have left some of England's finest churches in the hands of tiny rural communities. In central Manchester, large Victorian churches have been left unattended as people moved to the suburbs.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, said: "The Church remains committed to its key role in caring for this heritage. Additional public funding is, however, essential if they are to continue to speak strongly of spiritual values to the nation in the next millennium."

The initiative was not born of crisis or desperation, he said. Many churches were now in better repair than ever. But, after a 25-year period when 470 new churches had opened, a disproportionate burden was falling on small congregations. Talks are to be held between officials of the Heritage Department and church officials led by Philip Mawer, secretary-general of the General Synod.

Virginia Bottomley, Heritage Secretary, said: "The Government is committed to working with the Church to secure the preservation of England's ecclesiastical heritage for future generations. I believe more can be achieved."



"I saw an accident when a friend fell from the truck taking us to the plantation. The tyre ran over his leg and he was sent to the company dispensary. They amputated his leg. He got no compensation and had to buy a plastic leg with his own money. The man has not worked since the accident." Pineapple plantation worker, Dominican Republic

Amputation without compensation in the pineapple industry of the Dominican Republic.

Dismissal for not working overtime in the grape industry of Brazil.

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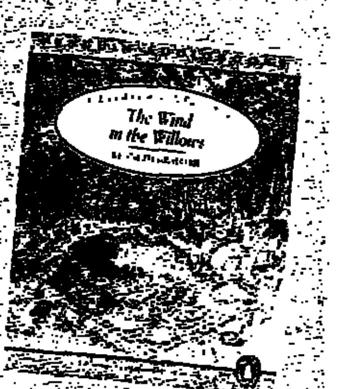

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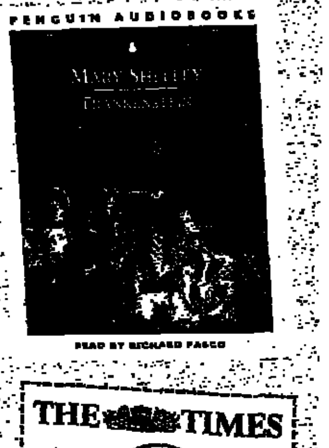

READ BY RICHARD PASCO

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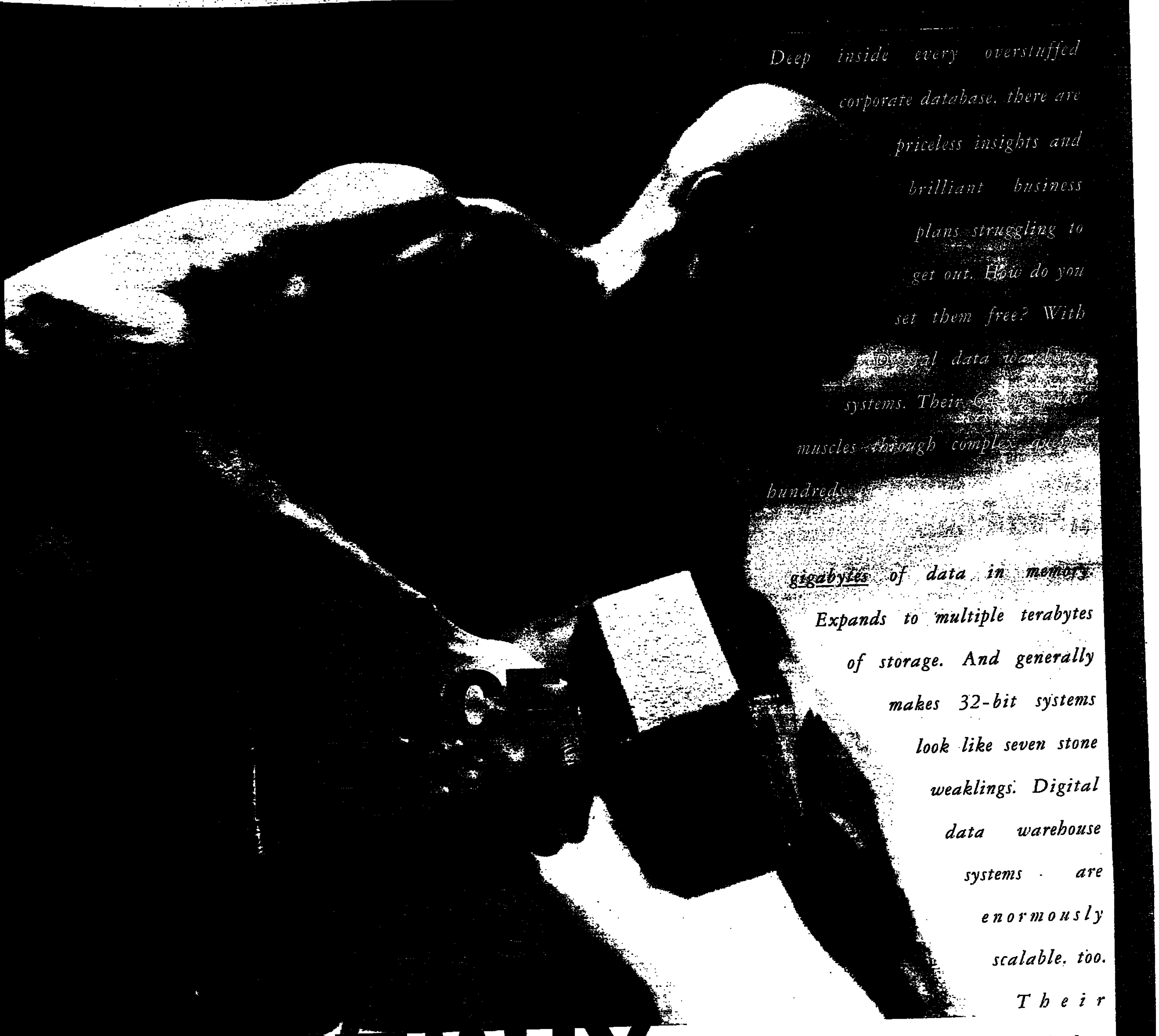

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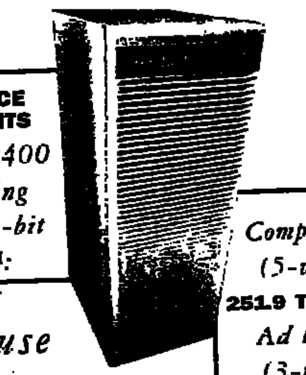
AND ACTUALLY GETTING IT INTO SOME KIND OF SHAPE.



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Palace press chief leaves Queen for Burger King

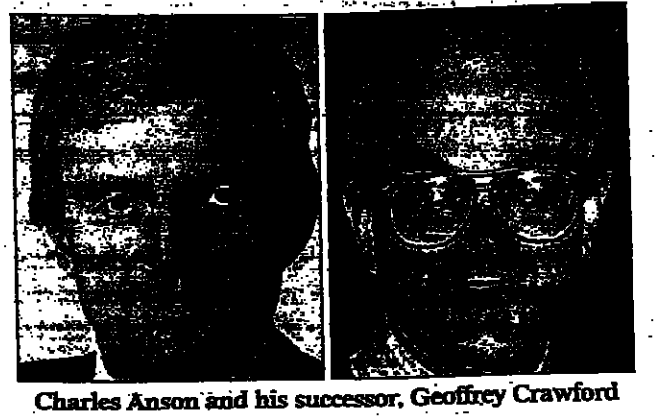
BY ALAN HAMILTON

CHARLES ANSON, who has been the Queen's official spokesman during one of the most troubled and momentous periods of her reign, is leaving his post as Buckingham Palace press secretary early next year to return to private industry.

After more than six years, a longer stint than most of his predecessors, Mr Anson will exchange the courtly corridors of the Palace for the more prosaic world of Burger King and Smirnoff vodka as group corporate relations director of Grand Metropolitan, the food and drink giant.

The Queen's new press secretary is to be Geoffrey Crawford, 46, an Australian diplomat who joined the Palace press office in 1988 and who is currently Mr Anson's deputy. Mr Crawford has agreed with the Queen that he will do the job only until the year 2000, when he plans to return to Australia with his wife and three children.

Last November Mr Crawford, whose duties included looking after the Princess of Wales's public life after her separation, told her that he could no longer act for her after she gave her interview to *Panorama* without telling him in advance.



Charles Anson and his successor, Geoffrey Crawford

He is succeeded as deputy by Penny Russell-Smith, a government information officer who has been seconded to the Palace and who has been working there as an assistant press secretary. Miss Russell-Smith will remain there at least until 1998, looking after press relations for the Duke of Edinburgh and the Princess Royal.

Mr Anson, 52, who is married with two teenage children, told the Queen when he accepted the hot seat in 1990 that he would do the job for only a limited period; he agreed his departure with her this summer. When he moved to the Palace from his job as head of public relations at Kleinwort Benson merchant bank, Mr Anson little imagined the long spell of exceedingly stormy weather through which he would have to navigate the monarchy's public image. He was helped by his long experience as a diplomat, including a spell in the Tehran Embassy during the Iranian revolution, and a stint in the Downing Street press office.

"It has been a tumultuous period in some ways, but it has also been a period of tremendous changes and many more positive events," Mr Anson said yesterday.

Nothing has caused more tumult at the Palace in recent years than the separation and subsequent divorce of both the Prince of Wales and the Duke of York. After a private briefing given by Mr Anson to correspondents on the separation of the Duke and Duchess of York, the BBC reported: "The knives are out for Fergie." An embarrassed Mr Anson offered his resignation to the Queen but it was immediately refused.

Press secretaries would much rather have nothing to do with family matters, and Mr Anson has had his share of weightier constitutional announcements, including major changes in the monarchy's financial arrangements, the Queen's decision to pay income tax and the opening of Buckingham Palace to the public. He has also masterminded media coverage of ground-breaking overseas tours by the Queen to Russia and South Africa.

Some previous press secretaries, including Ronald Allison and the long-lasting Michael Shea, have returned to the private sector to make serious money, although at about £60,000 a year the press secretary's post offers comfortable recompense for dealing endlessly with the hungry wolves of Fleet Street.

JOHN STILLWELL

Penny Russell-Smith, who succeeds Geoffrey Crawford as deputy press secretary

Merchant banker to take charge of royal finances

Lord Camoys: will take up post at end of 1997

BY ALAN HAMILTON

THE new head of the Queen's household is to be Lord Camoys, a leading businessman and Roman Catholic.

The seventh Baron Camoys, 56, will take up his post as Lord Chamberlain at the end of 1997 when the Earl of Airlie, 70, retires. The appointment is made by Downing Street with the approval of the Queen.

Although the appointment will please the Catholic community, the Lord Chamberlain's religion is of no particular significance, as his duties are administrative rather than constitutional. Nor is it unusual for a businessman to take the post: Lord Airlie currently spends one day a week in his capacity as chairman of the Perth-based General Accident Fire & Life Assurance Corporation.

His business background is, in fact, more significant than his religion and is further proof that the Royal Household has long ceased to be staffed entirely by high-fliers from the worlds of public service or the Armed Forces. The Queen's private secretary and press secretary both came from merchant banks, and her Keeper of the Privy Purse is a former partner in one of the City's leading accountancy firms.

Lord Camoys has a large business portfolio, and numbers among his appointments the non-executive deputy chairmanship of Barclays de Zoete Wedd, a leading merchant bank, and the deputy chairmanship of Sotheby's. The Palace said yesterday that it was too early to say whether Lord Camoys would maintain his business connections, but from January 1, 1998, his duties to the Queen would be his first priority.

If the Queen is chairman of the royal "firm", the Lord Chamberlain is her managing director. Since his appointment in 1984, Lord Airlie has presided over a number of far-reaching changes in the way the Royal Household is run and financed, including a thorough management review of Palace organisation in 1986; the Queen's decision to pay income tax; the ending of Civil List payments to most of her family; the opening of Buckingham Palace to the public; the appointment of a professional City accountant as director of finance; and the subsequent running by the Palace of its own budget for building maintenance and royal travel.

Boy wins cash over drink that cost an eye

BY KATHRYN KNIGHT

A BOY who was blinded in one eye by the top of a lemonade bottle was awarded damages estimated at £50,000 yesterday in the High Court.

John Pearce, then eight, was opening a two-litre bottle of Tesco's lemonade when the plastic cap flew off, blinding his left eye. His disability meant he would never realise his dream of joining the police, the court was told.

Through his parents, Robert and Rosemary, he began an action for damages against Tesco Stores, the drink suppliers Rank Hovis McDougall Foods and the bottle manufacturers United Closures and Plastics. They did not accept liability but damages were awarded by agreement, the court was told.

Paul Stewart, representing the boy, now aged 14, told Mr Justice Holland that John had experienced enormous pain and suffering after the accident at home in Ansty, near Brighton. He had only recently been able to pursue his love of rugby and other school sports after an operation to insert a false eye last year.

The level of damages was kept secret as part of the settlement, but the judge, who said he considered the amount "very fair", had been told that the average level for loss of an eye was abound £27,000. "One hopes that life proceeds in such a way that he is able to fully compensate for his disability, as many people do," the judge told his parents. John, who is now a member of the Army cadet force, was not in court for today's hearing. His parents, who launched a campaign for better bottle safety after the accident, declined to comment as they left court.

Bats snuggle up in stately storeroom

BY MICHAEL HORNSBY, COUNTRYSIDE CORRESPONDENT

A COLONY of rare bats has been provided with a winter home in the grounds of an abandoned Gothic-style mansion at a cost of £11,000. The project, funded by English Nature, will provide secure hibernation quarters for some 95 greater horseshoe bats.

Roger Ransome, a world authority on the species, which is among the most endangered in Britain, created the hibernaculum inside two brick tunnels in a hillside on the estate of Woodchester Park Mansion at Stroud, Gloucestershire. The tunnels were probably designed to store coal and wood.

Among the comforts installed for the bats is a small heater to provide a hotter area where they can go after returning from feeding forays. The higher temperature aids their digestion.

Mr Ransome said: "The greater horseshoe, *Rhinolophus ferrumequinum*, is our second biggest native bat, with a wingspan of up to 18in. There are estimated to be no more than about 3,500 left in 14 breeding sites scattered across southwest Britain, a third of them in Devon."

The bat needs a mixture of deciduous woodland and grazing pasture to support its diet of moths and beetles. It also needs old buildings for summer roosting and underground sites for hibernation.

Youth loses fingers in cap blast

A teenager has lost two fingers after igniting a block of explosive caps sold for toy guns. The blast also injured a friend and blew out windows in a house at Haverhill, Suffolk.

Ian Redpath, 17, also received minor facial and arm injuries. The two fingers of his left hand were recovered after the explosion but doctors at Addenbrooke's Hospital in Cambridge were unable to sew them back on. His friend was treated for a perforated eardrum.

Patient killed

A psychiatric patient died after escaping from hospital and climbing into an electricity sub-station. The Queen Elizabeth II Hospital in Birmingham has launched an inquiry into the death of Hugh Kirkwood, 31, who suffered 90 per cent burns. He was being treated at the hospital under the terms of a court order.

Officer cleared

A police officer who allegedly struck a Watford footballer and a fan when they ran on to the pitch at Bournemouth was cleared of assault by Wimborne magistrates in Dorset. Acting Inspector John Green, 41, who was in charge of security, was said to have been taking reasonable action against a mass pitch invasion.

Elderly robbed

A couple in their 90s were threatened by two masked raiders who burst into their bedroom and demanded money. The man, 92, and his wife, 91, were not hurt but were badly shocked by the break-in at their home in Handsworth, Birmingham. The intruders stole gold jewellery and £200.

Beethoven draft

An unrecorded sketchleaf for Beethoven's *Missa Solemnis*, containing drafts for the Sanctus and Benedictus, is expected to fetch up to £50,000 at a sale of musical manuscripts at Christie's on December 6. The *Missa Solemnis* took him nearly four years to complete and is regarded as one of his greatest achievements.

Cannabis alert

Eight students whose pot-smoking set off a fire alarm at Lincoln College, Oxford, have been banned from the university for ten days. They admitted using the drug after staff noticed its aroma during a search of an evacuated building. The college said that the students had been disciplined by the Dean.

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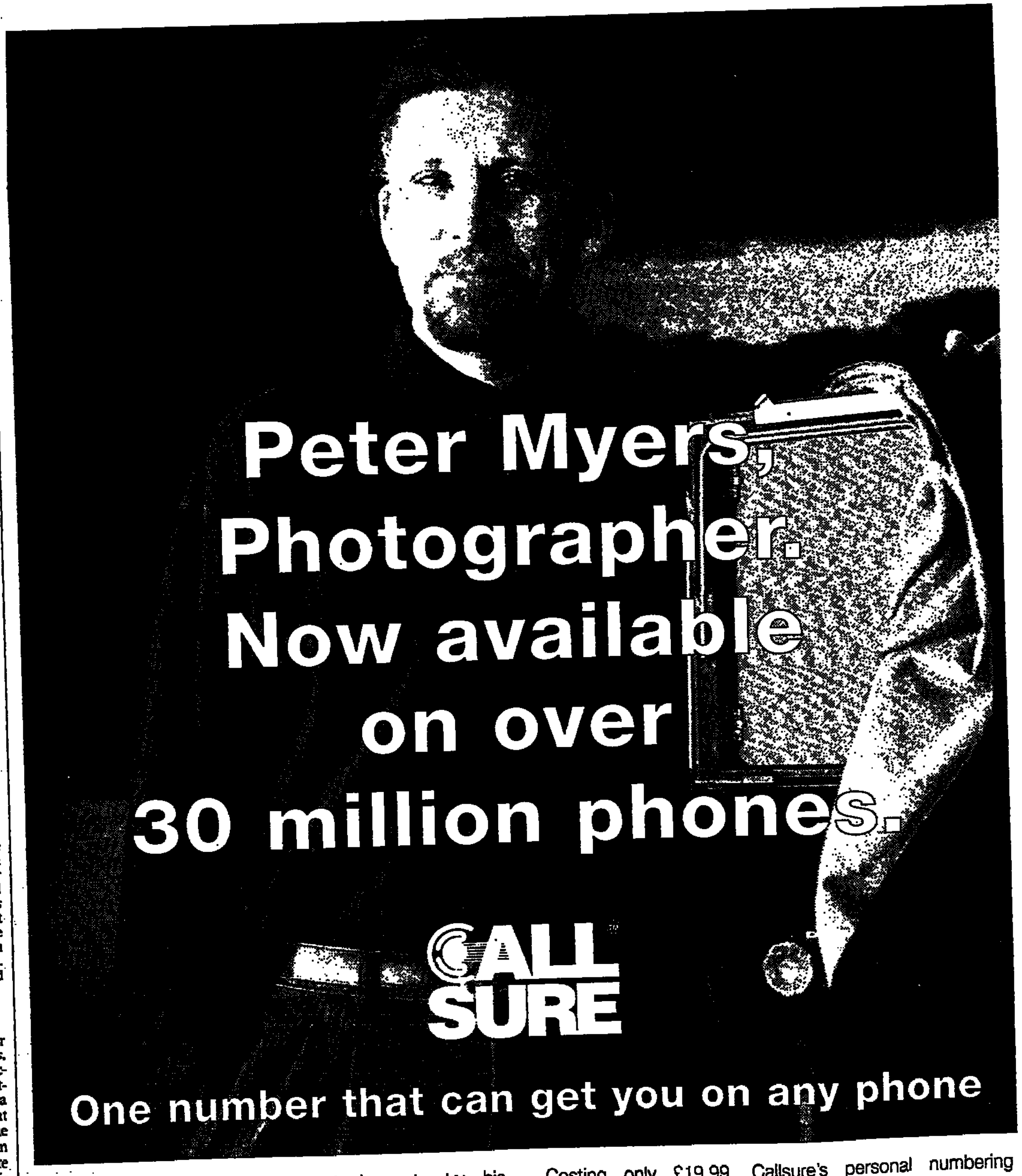

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Firearms Bill

Backbench Tories condemn 'panic' gun legislation

BY JAMES LANDALE AND ALICE THOMSON

TORY backbenchers accused the Government last night of trying to rush through legislation for a ban on almost all handguns without proper consultation.

At the start of the Commons debate on the Firearms (Amendment) Bill, **Nicholas Budgen** (C, Wolverhampton SW) protested that a guillotine motion, agreed by the Government and the Opposition, would curtail debate and limit MPs' ability to influence the legislation.

"This is the worst sort of guillotine because it is an agreed guillotine," he said. "It is an occasion when the House runs the risk of banding together as some form of lynch mob taking away the rights of a significant and honourable minority without proper considerations."

The procedure reduced the sovereignty of Parliament, he said. "Our most important duty is our need to give this legislation the careful scrutiny that it certainly demands."

He said that 96 per cent of crimes involving firearms were committed with illegal firearms. As such the Bill was aimed at only the 4 per cent of crimes committed with legally held handguns.

The House was entitled to say to the parents of children killed in the Dunblane massacre: "We understand your feelings, we share your grief — but we do just wonder whether the solution that you put forward is in fact going to have the effect that you so much hope for."

Mr Budgen said that MPs knew this to be the case but were afraid of telling the Dunblane parents. Instead, MPs were going to give gunowners and others affected by the Bill compensation that could be as much as £500 million.

Earlier a new money resolution allowing MPs to discuss compensation for the gun clubs, retailers and wholesalers that lose trade as a result of the Bill was approved without a vote. Although the Government is opposed to such compensation, Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, acknowledged that MPs should have the chance to debate the issue.

Jack Straw, the Shadow Home Secretary, supported the guillotine motion but attacked the Government's use of a three-line whip to order Tory MPs to vote for a ban that excluded .22 calibre handguns. He said the Government knew that a clear majority of MPs would be in favour of a ban on all handguns if there was a free vote. "So by insisting on a whipped vote, the Government display remarkably little confidence in their own arguments."

Sir Jerry Wiggin (C, Weston Super Mare) said that, whatever view one had of the Bill, it was not right to take away people's money, investments and livelihoods without fair compensation. "Generous compensation will help to allay the deep feeling of injustice that law-abiding people who enjoy shooting feel at having their sport prohibited by an Act of Parliament."

Sir Jerry, a former Tory minister and former chairman of the British Shooting Sports Council, also attacked the use of a guillotine motion. He told ministers: "Don't try that trick again. These things are better done with consultation and by experts."

Gerry Birmingham (Lab, St Helens S) accepted the handgun ban but called for greater compensation for gun clubs and gun owners. Compensation should not just cover the guns and accessories outlawed by the Bill, but also property and other financial losses incurred as a result of the legislation.

Sir Patrick Cormack (C, Staffordshire South), said there was considerable unease on the Tory benches over the tone and content of the Bill. Law-abiding citizens would be unfairly penalised. "Panic legislation is rarely good legislation. I do not believe that this legislation is going to enhance the reputation of Parliament. Nor do I believe it's serving the interests of our country."

Tony Marlow (C, Northampton N) said that although he had the greatest of sympathy for parents whose children died at Dunblane this legislation was not the answer. "It is not going to stop a Hamilton in the future. A potential Thomas Hamilton will continue to acquire weapons: the difference is that in future he will acquire them illegally and without the knowledge of, or notice to, the authorities.

"This is rushed legislation and if you rush legislation you are in grave danger of introducing mistaken legislation. This is mistaken legislation."

Sir Terence Higgins (C, Worthing), President of the Worthing and West Sussex Shooting Club, said the Government's proposals were unlikely to have "any significant impact" in reducing the probability of another Dunblane massacre, but could be counterproductive in driving gun ownership underground.

Budgen: gun law needs careful scrutiny

Wiggin: demand for generous compensation

ADRIAN BROOKS

Tony Blair, the Labour leader, presenting the Life After Stroke Awards yesterday, including a plaque to the veteran broadcaster Charlie Chester, 82, in recognition of his fight to regain his speech and mobility. Last month Mr Blair told the Labour Party conference how his life had been profoundly affected by his father's stroke

Utilities can afford to pay windfall tax, says Labour

BY ANDREW PIERCE
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

GORDON BROWN will today underline Labour's commitment to a one-off windfall tax on the privatised utilities in the face of a renewed Tory attack.

In a speech to the London Futures Exchange, the Shadow Chancellor will insist that a Labour government would raise income from the utilities to pay for a programme to help young people and the long-term unemployed to get back to work. The party says that the utilities can afford to pay the tax.

Mr Brown's speech will come 24 hours after the Tories produced figures which they said showed that the windfall tax would cost some consumers more than £200 in higher telephone, water, gas and electricity charges.

Brian Mawhinney, the Tory party chairman, told a press conference at Conservative Central Office yesterday that average households in England and Wales could face an increase of £192 in their bills — more in some regions — if the entire cost of the estimated £5 billion levy was passed on to consumers.

Dr Mawhinney, accused of lying by Labour, acknowledged that the figures might not be correct. But he urged Mr Brown to say what the true amounts were. "I have a simple challenge for Labour. If they don't agree with our calculations, they should tell us what their figures are."

Labour dismissed the Tories' figures and pointed to a recent leaked report by the bankers SG Warburg, which concluded that the utilities could comfortably afford the levy. Alan Milburn, a Labour Treasury spokesman, said: "The spate of attempted foreign takeovers of regional electricity companies is the surest sign that the windfall levy has already been taken into account and that the utilities can afford to pay."

In his speech, Mr Brown will reiterate that the tax will be levied only once. He will contrast Labour's policy with the first Thatcher government, which levied a surprise windfall tax on the profits of the banks. "There was no warning in advance. Labour will make it absolutely clear in advance," he will say.

Brown has bowed to the inevitable on single currency

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

A Blair government *could* still enter a European single currency in the first wave. The chances are perhaps only about 30 to 40 per cent at most even if Labour has a comfortable working majority. But that is more than the nil chances under a re-elected Tory government. These odds have not really been altered by the weekend announcement that Labour would enter during the next Parliament only after a referendum.

The main reaction, however, has been that it makes early entry less likely. But that confuses the immediate political mood with a possibly different position after the election. Gordon Brown had certainly opposed a referendum, arguing that a favourable reference in Labour's election manifesto to the principle of monetary union might be sufficient evidence of public support. This view has not even been shared by strong pro-Europeans in the Shadow Cabinet, including Tony Blair.

They believe that given the commitment of other parties to a referendum, and the strength of public feeling on the issue, it would have been impossible for Labour to go ahead without consulting people directly. In that respect, Mr Brown was only bowing to the inevitable, as Kenneth Clarke did six months ago. That counted more than the justification offered by the Brown camp that a referendum is necessary because important features of a single currency will still be unclear at the time of the election, preventing a full debate then.

Given that a referendum was always likely, the announcement does not really make much difference. Holding a ballot would take time and create uncertainty in the markets, but so would the necessary legislation on entry. But any Government recommending entry would have to win the public debate. A referendum is not in itself an insuperable hurdle, though, unlike 1975, most of the national press would be strongly against entry, and the polls suggest that a substantial hard core minority would be hostile under any circumstances.

The announcement has also been seen as a sign that Labour is moving in a sceptic direction. As he signalled on Friday, Mr Blair does have doubts, both about whether economic conditions across Europe would allow monetary union to succeed and about specific British difficulties, including the state of public opinion. The more sceptical Robin Cook has warned that Britain might not be in the first wave. These remarks, as well as the referendum announcement, are partly to prevent the Tories trying to fight the election over a single currency. The leaderships of both main parties are currently making sceptical gestures to protect their flanks.

But, as Mr Brown has pointed out, nothing of substance has changed. Labour remains in favour of monetary union in principle and all options remain open. After an election, Mr Blair would be in a much stronger position. The economic decision would turn less on nebulous talk about real convergence of growth and unemployment rates, where Britain is well placed, than on financial criteria such as levels of public borrowing and national debt. Labour will be keeping a close eye on the Budget a week today to see how far Britain is above the Maastricht criteria.

The key political factors for Mr Blair would be the size of his Commons majority, the extent of disarray on the Tory benches after a defeat and the pressures of the rest of his economic and constitutional agenda. Would he feel strong enough to take on a probably ferocious battle over a single currency at the same time as trying to make a success of the first Labour government for two decades? That is why early entry remains unlikely. But it is not impossible. In a year's time, monetary union could be the central issue of British politics.

PETER RIDDELL

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House where Clinton was born caught in cash row

FROM BRONWEN MADDOX IN WASHINGTON

THE Democratic Party has dismissed John Huang, the fundraiser who embroiled President Clinton's election campaign in weeks of controversy about suspect Asian contributions.

Attention is also focusing on Mark Middleton, a former White House aide, who has been raising funds in Asia to refurbish the house in Hope, Arkansas, where Mr Clinton was born. Mr Middleton, believed to have raised $50,000 (£30,000) from a Hong Kong billionaire for the project, denies that he sought to raise overseas money for the party itself in breach of federal laws.

The most expensive presidential election in US history has left Democrats and Republicans battling against allegations of improper fundraising. National fund-raising laws aim to prevent foreign interests influencing the outcome of elections. The Democratic National Committee says Mr Huang's dismissal at the weekend was unrelated to the row and was part of normal post-election "downsizing", in which around 50 posts have been cut. However, Democrats have found it hard to shake off allegations, which surfaced in the closing weeks of the campaign, that Mr Huang broke the rules.

The party has now returned nearly a quarter of the $2.5 million raised by Mr Huang, who became the party's vice-chairman of finance a year ago, focusing on Asian communities. These include donations from a South Korean company, which breached the ban on overseas funds, and $325,000 from a Californian businessman who claimed in court he had no American assets, raising questions about the true source of the money.

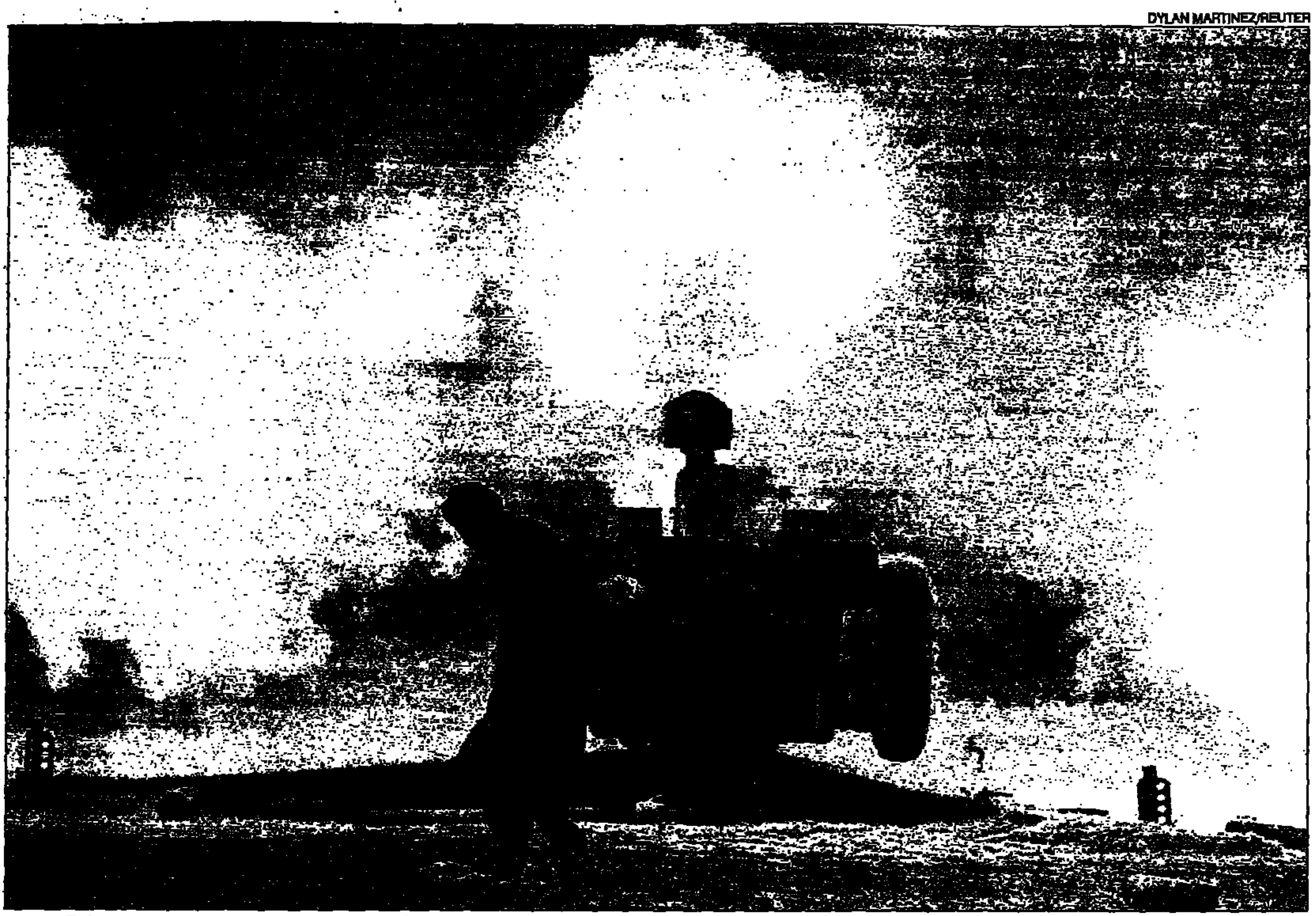
The party also announced yesterday that it would now return $5,000 Mr Huang raised from a rally in a Buddhist temple in April. It said that it could not be sure that the woman who gave the money was a legal resident of the United States.

The Justice Department is considering a request by senior Republicans to appoint an independent counsel to investigate Mr Huang's fundraising, and 11 congressional committees have begun inquiries into his activities.

At the same time, Republicans are raising questions about Asian funds raised by the Clinton Birthplace Foundation, which plans to turn the two-storey house, where Mr Clinton lived for the first four years of his life, into a tourist attraction. Mr Middleton, a former White House aide, is believed to have raised $50,000 in April from Nina Wang, the Hong Kong billionaire. The foundation, set up three years ago as a charity, is believed to have raised between $600,000 and $700,000. There is no ban on the foundation raising overseas money, but Republicans are questioning whether Mr Middleton sought to obtain Asian money for the Democratic Party at the same time.

Mr Middleton has denied the allegations. However, last week, the White House suspended his access after allegations that he improperly used its restaurant to entertain clients. A White House spokesman added that Mr Clinton supported the project but was unaware of the details.

DYLAN MARTINEZ/REUTER



A fighter of the Islamic Taleban militia fires an artillery shell towards positions held by soldiers loyal to the former Afghan Government. Long-range artillery and tank duels between the two sides are now an everyday feature of the war north of the capital, Kabul

US veto confirms exit of Boutros Ghali

FROM JAMES BONE
IN NEW YORK

YEARS of acrimony in relations between America and the United Nations culminated yesterday with Washington denying Boutros Boutros Ghali a second term as the world body's Secretary-General.

The 15-nation Security Council began the formal selection of the next chief with the US representative insisting that Dr Boutros Ghali step down at the end of his five-year term on December 31. "We respect Boutros Ghali, but the UN needs new leadership for the 21st century," Madeleine Albright, the American Ambassador, said. Dr Boutros Ghali has an aristocratic, some would say autocratic, style of leadership that put him in conflict with the combative Ms Albright. The first UN chief to enter office after the Cold War, Dr Boutros Ghali never won the confidence of the world's sole remaining superpower as the organisation struggled with new challenges.

When he took up his post in 1992, the UN was flush from victory in the Gulf War and seemed on the brink of a golden age in which the organisation might finally fulfil its goal of providing "collective security". The new Clinton Administration proclaimed a policy of "assertive multilateralism" with the UN as its centrepiece.

Relations quickly soured when 18 US soldiers serving beside UN peacekeepers in Somalia were killed in a firefight that most Americans did not understand. The tensions were exacerbated by Dr Boutros Ghali's persistent refusal to sanction more robust military action against the Bosnian Serbs. Washington retreated into a more isolationist stance, now mockingly referred to by some diplomats as "assertive unilateralism".

UN peacekeepers were withdrawn from Somalia and the whole peacekeeping mission in the Balkans transferred to a Nato-led force. American troops continued, however, to serve under the UN flag in successful missions in Haiti and Macedonia, where US national interests were considered to be at stake.

The official reason for the American opposition to Dr Boutros Ghali is his lack of enthusiasm for UN reform. Washington officials say that a new secretary-general is essential if the Clinton Administration is to persuade the Republican-controlled Congress to pay Washington's $1.4 billion (£903 million) in UN arrears.

But the UN reform effort is already in the hands of an American accountant and the organisation has recently announced its first no-growth budget and more than 1,000 job cuts.

With Dr Boutros Ghali out of the running, the Security Council plans to consider only other Africans for the post on the theory that Africa deserves a second term. Among those in contention are Kofi Annan, the Ghanaian head of UN peacekeeping; Salim Ahmed Salim, Secretary-General of the Organisation of African Unity; Hamid Algabid, the head of the Islamic Conference; Amara Essy, the Foreign Minister of Ivory Coast; and possibly President Diouf of Senegal.

President travels fair way for a round with Greg Norman

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

WHILE he may indulge in traditional American diplomacy and find time to praise the environmental wonder of the Great Barrier Reef, President Clinton has made little secret about the true excitement of his Australian visit, which starts today.

What did he most want to do on arrival? "Play golf with Greg Norman," came the answer before Mr Clinton boarded Air Force One yesterday for his first tour of the Australian continent.

Despite feigning surprise that Mr Norman should wish to join him on the links, Mr Clinton had in fact been planning a game with the mighty golfer for some time. During the election campaign, whenever his staff mentioned an overwhelming lead in the polls, Mr Clinton would remind them of the Australian's stunning defeat at the hands of Nick Faldo in the US Masters this year. It is clear that the prospect of a round with Norman helped to keep Mr Clinton focused during his brief holiday in Hawaii. Although the courses were waterlogged and others left before the arrival of the driving rain, he forced Benjamin Cayetano, the Governor of Hawaii, and Admiral Joseph Prueher, of the Pacific US Command, to join him at the Luana Hills Country Club on Oahu.

Described by an onlooker as "aqua golf", the game reflected the President's near-obsession for a sport now synonymous in America with the baby-boomer generation.

The only President to have reduced his handicap while in office, from 16 to 13, Mr Clinton has been known to practise for hours on the rebuilt Eisenhower putting green at the White House. Earlier this year in San Diego, he claimed to have achieved a lifelong goal of breaking 80. "Even a blind pig finds an acorn sometimes," said the President.

Unfortunately, even in golf, the Clinton name remains tarnished. Many believe his handicap and his best score say as much about the US chief executive as any Whitewater investigation could. Although Presidents as far back as William Taft have been avid golfers, Mr Clinton and Richard Nixon are the only two to have boasted that they had broken 80.

"He speaks a good game," said one Clinton golfing partner recently. "But you can't count the score as real."

In August 1993, for example, Mr Clinton played two rounds with Gerald Ford, the former President, and Jack Nicklaus, the American golfing legend. The President said that he had at least twice out-driven Mr Nicklaus, a feat even the professional golfer found hard to confirm.

Bill Clinton has kept an eye on cutting his handicap

Senior CIA officer 'spied for Russia'

BY BRONWEN MADDOX

A VETERAN CIA officer has been arrested and charged with passing secrets to the Russians since 1994 in return for more than $100,000 (£60,000), the FBI said yesterday.

Harold Nicholson, 46, who appeared in court in Virginia, was arrested on Saturday at Dulles International Airport outside Washington as he prepared to leave on a foreign trip. The FBI and CIA, which had become increasingly suspicious of his activities in the past few months, claim they saw him photographing top-secret CIA documents on Russia last Tuesday.

The FBI said that it had been conducting electronic and video surveillance of Mr Nicholson for some time, and had searched his home in a Washington suburb, as well as his computer files. Large deposits of money and "luxury spending" alerted the bureau.

Mr Nicholson could face life in prison without parole or even the death penalty, according to a federal prosecutor. He has been charged with passing secrets to the Russians since June 1994 but officials fear the disclosures could have occurred since the early 1990s.

In the past few months, as suspicions grew, Mr Nicholson was reassigned to the CIA's counter-terrorism unit to limit his access to sensitive material. Previously he was a spy instructor, training other CIA agents outside America.

The case is the second arrest in three years of a senior CIA employee on charges of spying for Russia. However, officials said last night that the latest case appeared to have no links to that of Aldrich Ames, who spied for the KGB and Russian intelligence for nine years until his arrest in February 1994.

Ames, who is serving a life sentence, is blamed for the deaths of nine US agents.

WORLD SUMMARY

Canadian judge has terror link

New York: Paul Begin, Quebec's Justice Minister has asked for an investigation into how a former convict once involved with Canadian terrorism has been appointed a judge (Quentin Letts writes).

Richard Therrien, 46, who has been appointed to Quebec's criminal court, helped a member of the hardline Front de libération du Quebec to evade police after the group's fatal 1970 kidnapping of a cabinet minister, Pierre Laporte. Mr Laporte's dead body was found in a car boot.

France launches sex symbols

Paris: French television channels launched a system of on-screen symbols to inform viewers of the level of sex and violence in programmes and alert parents to those considered unsuitable for children (Ben Macintyre writes). All French television programmes on the national networks will fall into one of four categories: parental consent advised; not recommended for under-12s; viewers over 16 only; and suitable for all.

Dagestan flats toll rises to 50

Moscow: Rescuers pulled more bodies from the wreckage of ablock of flats that housed Russian officers and their families in Kaspiysk, Dagestan, bringing the death toll from the weekend explosion to 50. One or more bombs may have been planted in the basement, officials said, and police detained a suspect. Rescuers vowed to keep digging after a dog was found alive in the debris. *(AP)*

Burma tourism drive opposed

Brussels: A campaign aimed at countering a promotional drive by Burma's military Government to attract European tourists was launched here by Members of the European Parliament and trade unionists. Led by Glenys Kinnock, they staged a protest outside the offices of the French holiday group Club Med, which has promoted holidays in Burma. *(AFP)*

Party splits over colony's council

Hong Kong: A pro-democracy party that plays a key role in the colony's Legislative Council split after it decided to join the interim legislature that will replace the council next year. Sixteen members of the Association for Democracy and People's Livelihood resigned when party leaders decided to let members join the provisional body. *(Reuter)*

Poison platter

Brisbane: More than 500 tourists caught salmonella by eating a chocolate sauce served on a Qantas flight to Japan from the city of Cairns, Queensland health authorities said. *(AFP)*

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Fleeing Hutu fighters plan Rwanda invasion

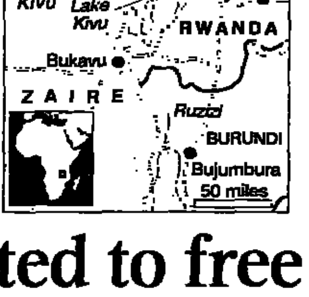
Sam Kiley in Gisenyi says the intervention force is likely to meet resistance from tribal warriors in east Zaire

THOUSANDS of Hutu refugees who managed to sneak past east Zaire's rebels are heading deeper into the interior of the country to fulfil a military plan to establish a "safe and sure base" for a future invasion of Rwanda.

Local Zaireans said in Sake, 25 miles west of Goma, that "perhaps 120,000 refugees have run to Masisi". Ray Wilkinson, spokesman for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, said he had had similar reports and that "hundreds of thousands of refugees have gone missing".

Masisi was "cleansed" of Tutsis by the *Interahamwe*, the extremist Hutu militia, earlier this year in preparation for an outright takeover of the fertile area as a Hutu homeland and as a rear-echelon base for military operations against Rwanda. "Many *Interahamwe* and their families headed towards Masisi," said Zairean peasants looting goods abandoned by the refugees.

The chances of Masisi being set up as an important base for Hutu army forces are slim, given the extent of their defeat by the Rwandan-backed east Zaire rebels. But, if a multinational force, including British troops, is sent to intervene in eastern Zaire with orders to find the 600,000 missing refugees, they are likely to meet resistance in Masisi. The *Interahamwe* who fled there with their families have vowed only to go back to Rwanda to overthrow "Tutsi rule".



On the Goma to Kigali road yesterday, hundreds of thousands of Hutu refugees walking home after two years in exile formed a column stretching 50 miles. About 400,000 refugees crossed into Rwanda between Friday and yesterday. The UNHCR sent lorries to pick up stragglers, mainly abandoned children and the old or infirm.

The human tidal wave that flooded into Rwanda at the weekend fanned out as the refugees took to hillside paths in search of their homes. In Nyondo, Josephina arrived to find her home intact, and empty. Her neighbours, a Tutsi family of which five out of eight died in the genocide, were putting the finishing touches to a home that had been destroyed after the mass slaughter at the hands of the *Interahamwe*. "Welcome, welcome," said Elizabeth, a survivor of the genocide, hugging her neighbour.

Josephina had also suffered as a result of the civil war and genocide in 1994. Her flight from Rwanda to Zaire in fear of retribution cost her husband his life. He died of cholera in Goma along with 30,000 others.

A mutual bond of sorrow seemed to grow between the two women, who could not yet talk too openly about the last two years of genocide and exile. "We just want to get on with our lives," Elizabeth said.

"Josie, you've been busy, what's your new baby called?" she said. For the time being scenes of reconciliation will be commonplace in Rwanda. But they hide deep wounds that may never heal.

The aim of the Rwandan Government is to get all the refugees home, then start sorting out the killers. This may take months but, as denunciations begin, many Hutus, especially the guilty, may regret ever going home.

Let Zaire fall, page 16
Leading article, 17

JOHN PARKIN/REUTER

An elderly Hutu refugee begs for a lift along the road to the Rwandan border

Spy plotted to free genocide suspects

By Sam Kiley

RWANDA's Hutu extremist exiles had plans to launch an armed mission to rescue three men accused of genocide from a United Nations prison in Tanzania.

According to files abandoned by the former Rwandan Army's head of intelligence, an agent had carried out a reconnaissance of the Arusha International Conference Centre, where the genocide trials are taking place, and the jail where the prisoners are held.

His report includes plans of Arusha, the prison and the conference centre. It was dated August 29, a few weeks before the trials of the first three alleged mass killers were due to start. The centre is guarded by the UN from within. Armed Tanzanian soldiers stand guard outside. "They have shown an ability to be readily corrupted," the agent, who signed his' report "Jos", said.

The report dwelt on who might be recruited as agents for the Hutu cause. Two people are singled out as especially friendly. A local businessman who occupies an office two floors below the courtroom, and a local businesswoman with close relationships with leading Tanzanian politicians. Both, the report said, were of Rwandan Hutu extraction.

"The building is only guarded around the tribunal offices. Elsewhere people come and go freely," the report said. Other potentially friendly infiltrators included a Masai spiritualist who had access to the prisoners being held in Arusha in conditions, the agent said, that "resembled a four-star hotel". Agent Jos's report suggested further reconnaissance "as a prelude to a rescue attempt".

Other documents recovered from a bus, which was used as a mobile military archive and abandoned by the exiled Hutu army in an ambush by eastern Zaire's rebels, also reveal advanced plans for a reinvasion of Rwanda.

The Hutu exiles had hoped to carry out Operation Liberate Rwanda after going on an arms-buying spree. The former Rwandan Army had already been supplied with arms by a British-based company, Mil-Tec Corporation, which had addresses in the Isle of Man and Hove, East Sussex.

Crash jet inquiry to study 'streak of light'

From Quentin Letts
in New York

THE FBI will debrief two airline pilots who saw an unexplained streak of light last weekend over Long Island, the site of July's TWA Flight 800 crash.

The night-time sightings, which will fuel the many conspiracy theories, were reported by a Pakistan International Airlines plane and by a TWA jetliner following it. It is possible that what they saw was nothing more than a meteor, but with July's crash still unexplained, and prey to theories of attack by a ground-to-air missile, the FBI said it would make inquiries.

The pilots of both aircraft reported what they had seen to air traffic control at about 10pm on Saturday. The two planes were about 45 miles east of New York, heading northeast and climbing at about 16,000ft. When TWA Flight 800 exploded shortly before 9pm on July 17, killing all 230 people aboard, it was over the same area at 13,400ft.

The pilot of the TWA plane on Saturday asked for permission to turn around, but was instead given a different flight path. The flight path which the Pakistani plane was using was then closed. There was a meteor shower on Saturday but it did not reach its maximum until later that night.

Earlier this month, Pierre Salinger, the former White House press secretary, made a highly publicised claim that the TWA crash was caused accidentally by an American armed forces missile.

Mr Salinger's claim was immediately denied by FBI investigators, and was found to be based on a document which has been available on the Internet. Mr Salinger, who claims to have photographic evidence of a streak of light in the skies on the night of July's disaster, is sticking to his theory.

☐ **Washington:** The chilling transcript of the cockpit voice recorder of Valujet Flight 592, which crashed in the Florida Everglades in May, killing 110 people, has been released, revealing how passengers struggled in vain to use oxygen equipment before fire consumed the plane (Bronwen Maddox writes).

The last-recorded voice on the eight-minute tape, against a background of screaming from passengers, is a crew member telling the control tower: "We need the closest airport available."

The transcript has been released at the start of a week-long hearing into the Valujet disaster, which is being held in Miami by the National Transportation Safety Board.

Hospital monitors 200 people for lethal Ebola virus

A nurse treating Marilyn Lahana hands over a sample

From R. W. Johnson
and Inigo Gilmore
in Johannesburg

MORE than 200 people are in hospital in Johannesburg after they came into contact with Marilyn Lahana, a South African nurse who is ill with the deadly Ebola virus, or with the Gabonese doctor from whom she apparently contracted the disease. They are all being watched for symptoms of the condition.

According to staff at the Johannesburg General Hospital, Mrs Lahana, 46, remains stable but critical after her kidneys failed. Great alarm has been expressed at claims that in the week before she was diagnosed as having Ebola, both Mrs Lahana and the medical staff treating her donated blood. Mrs Lahana's husband, Cyril, denied that his wife had ever given blood.

An Ebola helpline has been set up, and President Mandela yesterday urged South Africans not to panic. There is no known cure for the virus, which is extremely infectious. It is transmitted by body fluids, animal carriers and perhaps also through water.

Confusion persists over many aspects of the case, the first time the virus has escaped from its normal rural milieu to a densely inhabited modern city. Originally the hospital said the first carrier was a Zairean and that he had died of unspecified causes. Now the carrier has been revealed as a Gabonese doctor, who had contracted Ebola but had recovered sufficiently to have become an out-patient. This in itself is a remarkable admission, given that he is still a potential carrier of the virus. Semen can carry the virus for up to seven weeks after a patient has apparently recovered.

Some doctors concerned with the case have expressed alarm over inadequate safety precautions and the alleged blood donations by Mrs Lahana and her associates, but the hospital has issued no comment. What is clear is that doctors and nurses here are furious and frightened by the continuing influx of often mortally ill patients to Johannesburg's private hospitals from other parts of Africa. "It just should not be allowed," one doctor said. "This Gabonese doctor left Gabon right in the middle of an Ebola outbreak there which killed 17 of the 24 people infected with it. He must have known, or at least suspected, that he was infected.

"People like this come here because of our high standards of medical care, but the fact is that he could have infected all the doctors and nurses who treated him and started a major epidemic."

The doctor added: "It's quite clear that Mrs Lahana got the virus from him. Even if we managed to get away without an epidemic this time, how long can it be before we don't get away with it?"

Such sentiments were echoed by Professor Bob Swanepoel, the senior doctor in charge of the case, who declared: "The world and South Africa have been given a wake-up call." He emphasised that the ease of movement of people across the globe meant an outbreak of Ebola fever could occur anywhere with appalling consequences.

Such fears are clearly felt by many South Africans, although the medical authorities are doing all they can to head off a possible panic and to insist that tourists are at little risk. Given that the virus's incubation period is up to 21 days, however, it will be a long, tense wait for the 200 people under observation and their families.

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Zambia electors rebuff Kaunda

From Jan Raath
in Lusaka

AN ATTEMPT by Kenneth Kaunda, the former President, to discredit Zambia's elections with a boycott appeared to have flopped yesterday when voters turned up in convincing numbers at polling stations.

The Election Directorate announced last night that voting would continue until people in queues outside polling stations had cast their ballots, after a late start and morning rain kept voters away.

But shortly before sunset in Lusaka, the capital, election officers were reporting that at least half the registered voters in their constituencies had participated. Roger Sikazwe, the directorate chairman, said that voting in the populous Copperbelt province had been "very good".

Dr Kaunda called for a boycott in an attempt to show that President Chiluba had no mandate to govern after he barred the former leader from contesting the poll.

Egypt warns of terrorism surge if Hebron deal fails

From Christopher Walker
in Jerusalem

Mubarak: Israel must honour earlier accord

PRESIDENT MUBARAK of Egypt issued a warning yesterday that the Middle East could soon face a surge of "uncontrollable terrorism" unless Israel honours an accord made by the defeated Labour Government to pull back its troops from most of Hebron, the last occupied city in the West Bank.

"My principal fear is not war but terrorism," the pro-Western leader of Egypt said. "That is our fear. Uncontrollable terrorism. It would hit not only Israel but all neighbouring countries. Moderate Arab leaders who are working for peace will have enormous difficulty continuing down that road unless the other side responds to the desire for peace."

The warning, the most serious he has given since the right-wing Government of Binyamin Netanyahu came to power in Israel in May, coincided with the announcement that Yitzhak Mordechai, the Israeli Defence Minister, had approved a huge expansion of the Jewish settlement of Emmanuel in the occupied West Bank.

The plans, which are certain to be criticised by British officials during Mr Mordechai's visit to London this week, include the building of 1,200 homes to add to the 700 in the settlement near the Palestinian city of Nablus. They also involve the addition of a country club, a senior citizens' home, a field school and a study centre for ultra-Orthodox Jews.

Leaders of Peace Now, the left-wing Israeli pressure group, delivered a warning that the expansion scheme, condemned by the Palestinian Authority as a return to the atmosphere of war, could sabotage the fragile peace talks. "The Government is playing with fire," said Mossi Raz, secretary-general of Peace Now.

The Egyptian leader's grim prediction came as the six-week long negotiations on Hebron, instigated by President Clinton's emergency Washington summit, remained deadlocked over the extent to which evacuated Israeli troops would be able to return to Palestinian-controlled areas in pursuit of Arab terrorists.

The two sides, which again failed to bridge differences during talks in the autonomous Palestinian town of Jericho on Sunday, are also divided over whether Palestinians will be given access to the "Martyrs' Road". This is the tense throughfare that runs through the heart of Hebron, connecting Jewish settlements with the Cave of the Patriarchs, a site that is regarded as holy by both Muslims and Jews.

Mutiny rocks Bangui

Paris: Heavily-armed French troops and tanks patrolled the streets of Bangui yesterday after the Central African Republic was convulsed by its third army mutiny in eight months (Ben Macintyre writes).

France's 1,300 troops stationed in Bangui quickly took up strategic positions in the capital after rebel soldiers staged a mutiny over the weekend and seized two hostages, including the general secretary of the ruling party.

The mutineers, believed to number 200 soldiers, rebelled over unpaid wages and efforts by President Patasse to rein in army power in the country, which declared independence from France in 1960.

The rebels yesterday demanded immediate negotiations with the President.

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Germans swept up in economic sea change with Telekom share flotation

FROM ROGER BOYES
IN BONN

GERMANS yesterday cracked open their bulging piggy banks and ransacked their savings books to buy about £8 billion worth of shares in Europe's largest ever public offer. The flotation of Deutsche Telekom, accompanied by some very un-German razzamatazz, marks a sea change in the country's conservative economic culture.

There have been other signs of a shake-up in Germany. New opening hours allow customers to shop until 8pm on weekdays; bakers are no longer forbidden from offering fresh bread on a Sunday. Shareholders are demanding and receiving more attention from traditionally tight-fisted and tight-lipped executive boards.

Trade unions are coming to terms with welfare reforms that reduce paid sick leave and paid-up spa holidays. Social Democratic critics call it the "Americanisation" of Germany. In fact, it is simply that Germans are recognising the need to accept some risk and flexibility in their everyday life. However, the launch of the Telekom shares was worthy of a Barnum and Bailey circus. The staid German telecommunications group stopped short of hiring cheerleaders and a brass band, but employees wore magenta-coloured hats and laid out huge pink building blocks in the square outside the Frankfurt stock exchange.

A large television screen featured a Times Square-style clock which ticked off the hours and minutes until the opening of the stock market. A popular gravelly voiced actor, Manfred Krug, has starred in a long run of Telekom advertisements reassuring Germans that they will not get their fingers burnt if they play the market. His last televised advice, nonetheless, was to hang on to the shares for a while and "let them mature like a good red wine".

The aim is to create an *Aktienkultur* — a share culture — in a Germany that still uneasily remembers the collapse of the inter-war Weimar Republic, which fell victim to hyper-inflation and political extremism. The grandfather of Helmut Kohl, the Chancellor, for example, invested in war bonds and lost his savings after the First World War.

Since those stormy times Germans have favoured gold, property and fat savings books. This has had an impact on the country's ability to innovate. Few Germans, and indeed few banks, are willing to put up risk capital for cutting-edge companies. The result has been that Germany's 19th-century tradition of commercially useful invention has been eroded and the country lags a long way behind United States and Japan in terms of registered patents.

Telekom, however, is presenting itself as a safe gamble. Commerzbank has even launched a "Safe-T" share allowing Germans to invest in Telekom while minimising their risks. Two-thirds of the six hundred million shares in yesterday's issue were allocated to German investors and the issue was oversubscribed. The shares, listed at DM28.50 (£11.35) were being traded at more than DM33.

Theo Waigel, the Finance Minister, dubbed the flotation an "historic day for Germany as a financial centre". The fact is, however, that Frankfurt is a very underdeveloped financial site with barely 700 domestic firms publicly traded. Telekom, however, believes its heavily publicised launch will change the psychology of Germans. "In the 1990s Germans no longer want to be the big wet blanket of the stock market," claimed Ron Sommer, Telekom's chairman.

Shares surge, page 27

Demise of Mars probe blamed on latch failure

BY THOMAS DE WAAL IN MOSCOW AND NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

THE Russian *Mars-96* space probe, which plunged into the Pacific Ocean early yesterday at a cost of £180 million, might have been saved by better worldwide observation.

Dr Howard Shaw, of the University of Kent, who designed and built two instruments for the ill-fated mission, said yesterday that everything had worked except a simple latch designed to disconnect the spacecraft from the final rocket motor.

"The Russians no longer have worldwide telemetry," he said. "They lose sight of their satellites once they disappear over the horizon. Twenty years ago they had a fleet of ships dispersed around the world to keep track of them, but shortage of money forced them to abandon that."

The reason why better telemetry might have saved *Mars-96* was that everything had gone well, and the fourth-stage rocket had put the satellite on to an interplanetary orbit. It was actually en route for Mars, Dr Shaw said, and checks had shown everything on the satellite was working.

The final step was to separate the fourth-stage booster and the spacecraft, and then fire retro-rockets to bring the booster back to Earth to burn up, allowing the spacecraft to sail on alone on its ten-month journey. What the Russians did not know, because the probe was out of their sight, was that it had failed to separate from the rocket.

When the retro-rockets were fired, therefore, the whole assembly was brought back out of interplanetary orbit and into a low Earth orbit from which it quickly decayed and burned up.

"If they had known what was going on, they could have allowed the spacecraft and the booster to go on to Mars, and worked out how to separate them later," Dr Shaw said.

> ❛ Maybe it was not greased properly. The Russians ... got so close. It's a great shame ❜

The failure, he believed, was in a simple mechanism consisting of four latches and a spring which linked *Mars-96* to the booster. "It's a mundane, basic little thing," he said. "Maybe it was not greased properly. They did so much and got so close. It's a great shame and disappointment." The loss of the mission cost the Russians £73 million, and other nations which had contributed experiments a further £108 million, the Russian Space Agency said.

Germany had experiments costing £24 million on board, and had also given £12 million to enable the Russians to pay their staff.

American faces were also red yesterday, after confident predictions that the spacecraft was due to crash in Australia turned out to be wide of the mark. Predicting the precise point of impact of satellites decaying out of orbit is difficult, because the density of the atmosphere varies greatly from place to place.

The failure of *Mars-96* is a severe and perhaps mortal blow to Russia's unmanned space programme. It was already two years behind schedule, and no further missions are planned. "*Mars-96* was really the final effort," said Dr Shaw. "They will have a lot of trouble convincing politicians to spend any more."

However, writing off Moscow's programme may be premature, said James Keravala, head of the London office of Commercial Space Technologies, a company that arranges launches on Russian rockets. "They won't give up. Space travel is part of their philosophy, it's really in their hearts. It's one of the things that reminds them how good they are."

President Yeltsin flanked by staff at Moscow's Cardiological Centre three days after his November 5 heart operation, in a photograph taken by Tatiana Dyachenko, his daughter. Doctors say that he is gaining strength daily and will have talks with Viktor Chernomyrdin, the Prime Minister, today

Gorbachev backs Castro

FROM RICHARD OWEN
IN ROME

THE POPE met Mikhail Gorbachev, the former Soviet leader, in the Vatican yesterday. The encounter came a day before the Pope is to have talks with President Castro of Cuba, one of the world's last remaining Marxist leaders.

Observers said the timing appeared to be deliberate. "The Pope and Gorbachev brought down Communism in Eastern Europe," one said. "The Pope wants to remind Castro that the system is bankrupt."

However, Mr Gorbachev, who is in Rome to address an economics seminar, applauded Señor Castro's weekend complaint to the UN's World Food Summit that the sufferings of Cuba were the result of the 34-year "criminal and absurd" US embargo of the state rather than the failings of Communism. "Fidel did well to say what he did," he said. "The embargo is absurd."

Yesterday was Mr Gorbachev's fourth visit to the Vatican since 1989. Many, including himself, see that first trip as a landmark in the decline of Communism. Yesterday he said: "Your Holiness, I recall our first meeting here, which led to the start of so many changes inside and outside the Soviet Union."

Señor Castro, who arrived in Rome in his trademark combat fatigues but later changed into a suit to address the food summit, dined with Gianni Agnelli, the head of Fiat. Romano Prodi, the Italian Prime Minister, urged him to make "a real change" in human rights in Cuba.

But the Cuban leader said there was no room for democratic reform in Cuba. "We are achieving miracles," he said. "And we have done this because our revolution opened the door."

Romanians jettison past to elect dissident professor as President

BY ROGER BOYES

THE revolution finally arrived in Romania yesterday as voters threw out of power Ion Iliescu, the shadowy post-Communist President who ruled for almost seven years with the backing of the country's security services.

Champagne flowed and students hoisted the Romanian flag — its heart ripped out as in the 1989 uprising against Nicolae Ceausescu — to celebrate the weekend ballot-box victory of a dissident geologist.

The victory of Professor Emil Constantinescu seemed to confirm a trend against the Left throughout Central Europe — the Centre Left recorded big losses in local elections in the Czech Republic on Saturday, the Lithuanians have returned a centre-right Government to power and the Bulgarians earlier this month elected a conservative lawyer, Petar Stoyanov, as President.

The Romanian election, however, may be the most significant of all these. The Romanian President, unlike the Bulgarian head of state, has real power; and, unlike Lithuania and the Czech Republic, where the decision to press ahead with market reform is not seriously contested, Romania is at an important juncture.

Mr Iliescu pursued a policy of gradual reform which failed to tap any of the great economic potential of the country. His last desperate efforts to cling to power were typical of his Communist background: he froze food and energy prices and raised pensions by 10 per cent from October 1.

Mr Constantinescu will have to break with this style of management if he is to win back the confidence of Western investors. His campaign promised to cut taxes, improve living standards and modernise industry. It is clear that he wants to introduce rapid market reform. If there is no progress in the first 200 days of his rule, he has pledged to resign. "We will have an austerity programme. We have an extremely difficult legacy. The Government must apply long-term reform but at the same time, must achieve quick results ... the time for action has begun," he said on Romanian television.

The economic shake-up will prove difficult and President-elect Constantinescu will face opposition not only from traditionally militant coalminers and factory workers — who fear unemployment if there is radical economic change — but also the secret services.

It is the heirs of the feared Securitate who have come to symbolise the continuity of the Iliescu presidency with the rule of his predecessor, Ceausescu. Mr Iliescu, a Moscow-trained engineer, was once regarded as crown prince to the dictator. He fell out of favour in 1984, however.

After Ceausescu and his wife, Elena, were executed in 1989, the influence of the Securitate, now renamed and split into six competing services, has grown to the point where the head of the Romanian Information Service, General Virgil Magureanu, is the second most important figure in the country.

Again and again, the agents have made their presence felt. Apart from evidence of continued illegal phone-tapping, much of the privatisation process in Romania is bound up with the question of Securitate control. Professor Constantinescu has been quick to emphasise that he has a clean record. "There are no dark corners in my life and consequently I cannot be blackmailed ... nobody can put pressure on me."

Ion Cristoiu, a commentator, put it another way: "He was not strangled, he was not toppled in a coup, nor was he shot in Tirgoviste [the scene of the Ceausescu execution]. That is why today is an historic day."

Constantinescu: market reform is a priority

Iliescu: rule was backed by security services

Belarus chief says enemies can leave

FROM RICHARD BEESTON
IN MOSCOW

PRESIDENT Lukashenko of Belarus yesterday vowed that nothing would stop him augmenting his considerable powers and warned opponents of his dictatorial rule to look "for another homeland".

As Belarus appeared to slip further towards violent confrontation, neither the President nor his parliamentary opponents showed any signs of backing down. The populist leader of the former Soviet republic told supporters in the provincial city of Gomel he was prepared to "take the most rigorous measures" against his enemies.

The two sides have been locked in a bitter, at times violent, dispute over Mr Lukashenko's attempt to increase substantially his powers, an issue due to be resolved by referendum on Sunday.

He wants to extend his four-year term in office by an additional two and a half years, to win the right to appoint and dismiss local leaders, the right to set elections and additional powers that would turn the country into a virtual dictatorship.

The contest turned violent at the weekend when thousands of anti-Lukashenko demonstrators marched through Minsk, the capital, and clashed with club-wielding riot police, leaving scores injured or under arrest.

Parliament has been staging its own resistance campaign by occupying the assembly building, a move taken to avoid being locked out by the security forces.

Mikhail Chigir, the Prime Minister, appeared to switch sides yesterday when he threatened to quit unless the referendum were cancelled. Mr Lukashenko said he could be easily replaced by "another bureaucrat ... those who do not want to work will be free to look for another country".

Caruana: vestiges of colonial ties should be scrapped

Gibraltar 'to quit Nato if Spain wins southern control'

BY MICHAEL BINYON
DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

IF NATO appointed a Spaniard as head of the alliance's southern command with control over Gibraltar, the colony would leave Nato, Peter Caruana, the Chief Minister, said yesterday.

Gibraltar would never accept any arrangement that gave Spain a chance to undermine the Rock's sovereignty: "The suggestion that this country could exercise any command and control is as offensive to the people of Gibraltar as the idea that Argentina should exercise control over the Falklands," he said. Speaking before talks with Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, Mr Caruana also called for a long-term change in Britain's constitutional relations with the Rock. He said all vestiges of a colonial relationship should be scrapped in Britain's relations with the dependent territory of 30,000 people. A new constitution that reflected modern practice should also re-examine the role of the Governor and change the appointment of unelected officials.

"I have no agenda for breaking the political links with London," he said. "What we want is the process of decolonialisation." He cited the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man as the kind of dependent relationship within the European Union he had in mind.

Last year Britain came close to threatening Gibraltar with direct rule, so exasperated was the Government with the refusal of Joe Bossano, the previous Gibraltar Prime Minister, to crack down on drug smuggling and money laundering.

Mr Caruana, who will see foreign affairs politicians from all parties during his two-day stay in Britain, was insistent that Gibraltar had turned over a new leaf since his election in May. His Government was deeply concerned about what he admitted was the unsavoury image Gibraltar had acquired.

"This did enormous damage to us," he said. "We were seen as a place that was off the rails and off the tracks."

Gibraltar will tighten controls on the sale of tobacco and make every effort to enforce EU directives to prevent money laundering, as well as clearing the backlog of others still to be enacted.

Mr Caruana said be wanted to step up co-operation with Spanish authorities on day-to-day law enforcement. But he expressed frustration with Spain's refusal to improve relations, ease border controls, or accept Gibraltar as a full member of the EU.

He warned Britain not to allow Spain to hold Gibraltar hostage in bilateral relations. "We want to engage Spain, but is Spain willing to participate with Gibraltar? Are they interested in Europeanisation, or only if they are making progress on their sovereignty claim?" For Gibraltar, sovereignty was absolutely non-negotiable, he said.

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The cutting edge of sanity

Psychosurgery is being used to combat severe mental illness, but the results are mixed. **Anjana Ahuja** reports

GILL ALLEN

"I was always energetic, smartly dressed, hard-working, and always good for a laugh and a joke. I will never accept this is how I am meant to be"

Marilyn Capon is standing in her kitchen, counting the dishes on the draining board. The counting helps to blot out the disturbing images in her head — blood-spattered abattoirs, carcasses swinging silently, dead people. She won't identify the people in her irrational thoughts. "I'm *not* trying to be difficult," she says. "I'll be forever worrying about the fact I've told you. I don't want to tempt fate." Her twin tormentors, severe clinical depression and obsessive compulsive disorder, have defied hospital treatment, pills and electroconvulsive therapy.

In June, Marilyn, 40, underwent psychosurgery, or, as many prefer to call it, neurosurgery for mental disorder (NMD). The controversial operation involved burning out brain tissue in the frontal lobes, and was a final attempt to soothe her troubled mind.

Five months on, all she has to remember it by are two small scars on her forehead. Marilyn still rarely leaves her small ground-floor flat in Galleywood, near Chelmsford in Essex. She still endures the horrific thoughts, still exists on rice pudding and ice-cream (she is too tired to cook), and still depends on a weekly visit from her social worker. It takes her several hours to wash and dress. Sometimes she is too exhausted to feed Woo, her cat. She looks as though she would like to lie down and never wake up.

Psychosurgery didn't work for Marilyn. Nobody will be able to explain its failure, for psychosurgery is a medical mystery. All doctors know is that, in some people, killing off pea-sized portions of perfectly healthy brain tissue can alter mental state. The target is the ring-shaped limbic system in the centre of the brain. It is thought to play a crucial role in controlling our emotions.

This uncertainty is why the operation is made available only to the most desperate sufferers of depression, obsessive compulsive disorder, mania and anxiety. In fact, psychosurgery is offered at barely a handful of institutions around the world. In Britain, these include the Maudsley Hospital in south London, and the University of Wales Hospital in Cardiff. (Another inexplicable aspect is that Cardiff surgeons destroy deeper tissue than that targeted by the London surgeons, but achieve the same result.)

Of these, the Geoffrey Knight Institute at the Maudsley is the most active. Dr John Bartlett, a neurosurgeon, and Dr Paul Bridges, head psychiatrist at the institute, have overseen 1,200 operations. They are saddened that many doctors will not refer patients for psychosurgery.

"The problem is prejudice," Dr Bridges says. "People just don't seem to like the idea of psychosurgery because it sounds brutal. They just remember the old operations, where people were turned into cabbages and suffered all sorts of other severe side-effects. Now surgery is highly accurate and carefully controlled."

Dr Bridges is referring to psychosurgery's barbaric forerunner, the lobotomy. Popular in the Forties and Fifties, the removal of all or part of the frontal lobes made zombies of thousands before being abandoned. The modern version is far removed from its terrifying ancestor — two thin probes are inserted in the forehead of the anaesthetised patient, and high-frequency radio waves emitted from the tip burn out tissue in moments.

Despite this precision, controversy does remain. Those prepared to go under the knife today must convince a panel from the Mental Health Act Commission that they have given their free and full, informed consent.

Six out of ten patients, according to Dr Bridges, are cured or partially cured. Others claim a more cautious success rate of three in ten. Other sufferers see no change, or even see their conditions worsen as a result, although deterioration might be the natural progression of the disease. If the operation fails, patients cannot have it again because there is nothing left to burn out.

These failures, say critics, are the best argument against an ethically dubious practice whose worth has never been proved and whose scientific basis eludes explanation. Another concern is that psychosurgery offers false hope to those least able to cope with disappointment.

Dr Bridges, however, rejects this: "The suicide rate of people before operation is 15 per cent. After the operation, 1 per cent commit suicide. It is lifesaving." What of the charge that psychosurgery has never been properly evaluated? "If someone could come up with a treatment against which to compare it, I would welcome a randomised controlled trial. But there *isn't* anything comparable." Meanwhile, Dr Bridges says, doctors must offer desperate patients this one last chance: "Bearing in mind the suicide rate, we simply must go on helping."

'They remember when people were turned into cabbages'

Tony Bartholomew, a 43-year-old former bricklayer from Rotherham, south Yorkshire, was one of the lucky ones. A manic depressive from the age of 14, he has made several serious suicide attempts. In a *Network First* documentary to be screened tonight, he reveals what he planned to do if the operation failed: "I'll try not to do anything until my mam goes, and then when she goes, I'll go. I'd have nothing to lose and I can stop all this suffering." In fact, the operation, in June, saved his life. "Within three weeks I was less depressed, and doctors have said things could get even better over the next two years," he says.

Now on medication, Tony is planning his first shopping expedition for years, and hopes to take up gardening again.

Meanwhile, Marilyn longs for the return of the life that was stolen from her after a nervous breakdown in 1982. It is hard to believe that this small, weary woman, dressed in unflattering leggings and baggy jumper ("I know it's *not* nice but they don't need ironing") was once a happy, lively hospital worker in a stable relationship.

Soon, it wasn't just tiredness and depression that got her down. Horrible images of dead animals started plaguing her after her beloved cat, Tiger, was run over. Marilyn recalls: "I couldn't bear to shut my eyes. I just kept seeing him lying there."

That incident, and the gruesome thoughts that followed, plunged her deeper into depression. One evening, she snapped. She ran around the house with a meat cleaver, and was taken into hospital. She lost her job and her common-law husband, and attempted suicide more times than she can remember. She would happily lose a limb in exchange for her sanity.

Her two sisters and her boyfriend Gary are supportive, and she keeps in touch with the friends she made in hospital. She is glad she tried the operation but realises that, bar some miracle cure, she will suffer until the day she dies.

She says: "I'm nothing like the real me. I was always energetic, smartly dressed, hard-working, and always good for a laugh and a joke. The comparison with me now is pathetic. Even if I live until I am 100, I will never accept this is how I am meant to be."

● Network First: Psychosurgery, Damaging the Brain to Save the Mind. *Tonight ITV, 10.40pm.*

Why I miss the joys of office life

Simon Nye on the pleasures of swivel chairs and Tipp-Exing

It's nearly five years since I gave up working as an employee in an office and I miss it. I have noticed what a bad press the clerical life gets. Sick building syndrome, the suggestion that if you put two desks together staff will harass each other sexually, the supposed advantages of teleworking . . . if we're not careful we'll stigmatise office life to such an extent that nobody will enjoy it any more.

So listen up. Don't be ashamed if you enjoy ordering paper clips. Don't despise yourself because you have a fascination for the niceties of *deskworld*. Offices are sociable and warm. Offices are good.

I was a translator in the London office of a Swiss bank until I gave it all up to write wryly observant television scripts, as I like to describe my work, or to *do jokes*, as my friends and family like to describe it. It was the pleasing little rituals I missed first — running my hand along the floor-to-ceiling carpeting in the lift; checking my e-mail box and finding largely nonsensical but cheerful messages from Simon in computers; watching bottoms go by; ripping the plastic cover off this month's copy of *Eurobanker* and tossing it into the bin with that special clunking sound; debating with my colleague Craig which of us should get the stationery.

Not convinced? Let me list at random some of the pleasures of the office. Lying down under the desk after lunch. Tipp-Exing. Smirking when superiors leave the room. Telling the temp how much you like her hair. Making your document-holder go boing.

The work, of course, may be hard and grinding, but that is the nature of work. At least in an office you usually get some kind of swivelly chair to do it on.

The status of office life over the last three decades can be charted crudely in TV terms. The 1970s saw the *Reggie Perrin* series in which Leonard Rossiter rebelled at the absurdities and unhinging repetitions of small company life. It brilliantly captured the three legs of the stool of office life: thwarted lust, professional paranoia, and the tendency always to be 11 minutes late for work.

Attitudes to office life in 1980s were characterised by *Capital City*, the series set in a London merchant bank where everyone was young and lithe and wore suits that cost a teacher's monthly salary. Computers had arrived, turning workplaces from dingy paper mills into gently glowing nerve centres. Every executive had a basketball hoop. Office life was sexy and we were supposed to sleep with each other.

In the 1990s we are back to the office-as-nightmare. *Drop the Dead Donkey* shows a world of paranoia, backbiting and skulduggery. Nobody hugs at Globelink.

'Madonna ordering a batch of staples — I don't think so'

In many ways, working in an office is like a long-running sitcom: the characters say more or less the same thing every week, the jokes aren't always very good but you laugh anyway, and occasionally someone leaves and you never know why.

And working in offices helps you to understand how other organisations operate. The fog of British politics clears when you realise that the Government is essentially a classic group of office employees. Michael Portillo, the sadistic head of security with the unreasonably crisp shirts. Ken Clarke, the chief salesman everyone wants to buy a drink. Michael Heseltine, the floppy-haired executive who does something but nobody's quite sure what.

Office life obviously wouldn't suit everyone. Paul Gascoigne wouldn't react well to the queue for the colour photocopier. Madonna ordering up a batch of staples — I don't think so.

But the next time someone suggests that offices are full of drones lacking the sense to get a proper job that involves getting out and about in the fresh air, drape them in a sympathetic gaze and tell them about the simple pleasure of an hour spent serenely Tipp-Exing. If they nod off, just ignore them.

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BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook   TUESDAY NOVEMBER 19 1996

Stunning tax haul improves Clarke's hand

By Janet Bush, economics correspondent

A STUNNING haul of tax receipts in October has given the Chancellor more room for manoeuvre in next week's Budget but the City still gave warning yesterday that tax cuts would be inappropriate when the economy is already showing robust growth.

The Government paid back £4.39 billion of borrowing in October, thanks to bumper corporation tax receipts helped by a bounce back in VAT and excise duties, which reflect healthy consumer spending. This was more than twice the debt repayment that the City had been expecting.

The net effect of yesterday's surprisingly good figures is that the City — and the Treasury — now believe that the Government is back on track to meet its £26.9 billion forecast for the public sector borrowing requirement this year. Earlier in the year, tax revenues had been disappointing and the PSBR appeared to be overshooting that forecast.

The October repayment leaves cumulative borrowing at £11.36 billion, compared with £18.72 billion at the same stage last year. Taking privatisation proceeds out of the picture, the improvement is far less dramatic, with borrowing at £15.3 billion this year compared with £18.8 billion last year. Nevertheless, this is still a far better picture than earlier this year when the Government had made virtually no progress in reducing the deficit.

Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, said that yesterday's figures were very good and put him back on track to meet the prediction made in the Treasury's *Summer Forecast*.

But, clearly keen to prevent an outburst of euphoria in advance of next week's Budget, the Treasury was at pains to point out factors that exaggerated the positive news in October. Officials noted that healthy income tax receipts came after a number of poor months and simply put this source of revenue back in line with Treasury predictions. Some of October's strong bounce back in VAT receipts was also attributed to the effects of timing that brought forward some of the taxes normally expected in November and December.

On corporation tax, which totalled £9.1 billion compared with £7.3 billion last year, it said that October normally saw a preponderance of payments from financial companies, which have been much more profitable than industrial and commercial companies who tend to pay in January. In other words, the Treasury is warning that January's corporation tax is unlikely to be as good as October's.

But, in spite of such caveats, yesterday's numbers were clearly very welcome news. David Walton, of Goldman Sachs, said that a feasible Budget package would now include spending cuts of £2 billion, net tax cuts of £3 billion and a lowering of the PSBR forecast for next year, from £23.4 billion to around £20-£21 billion.

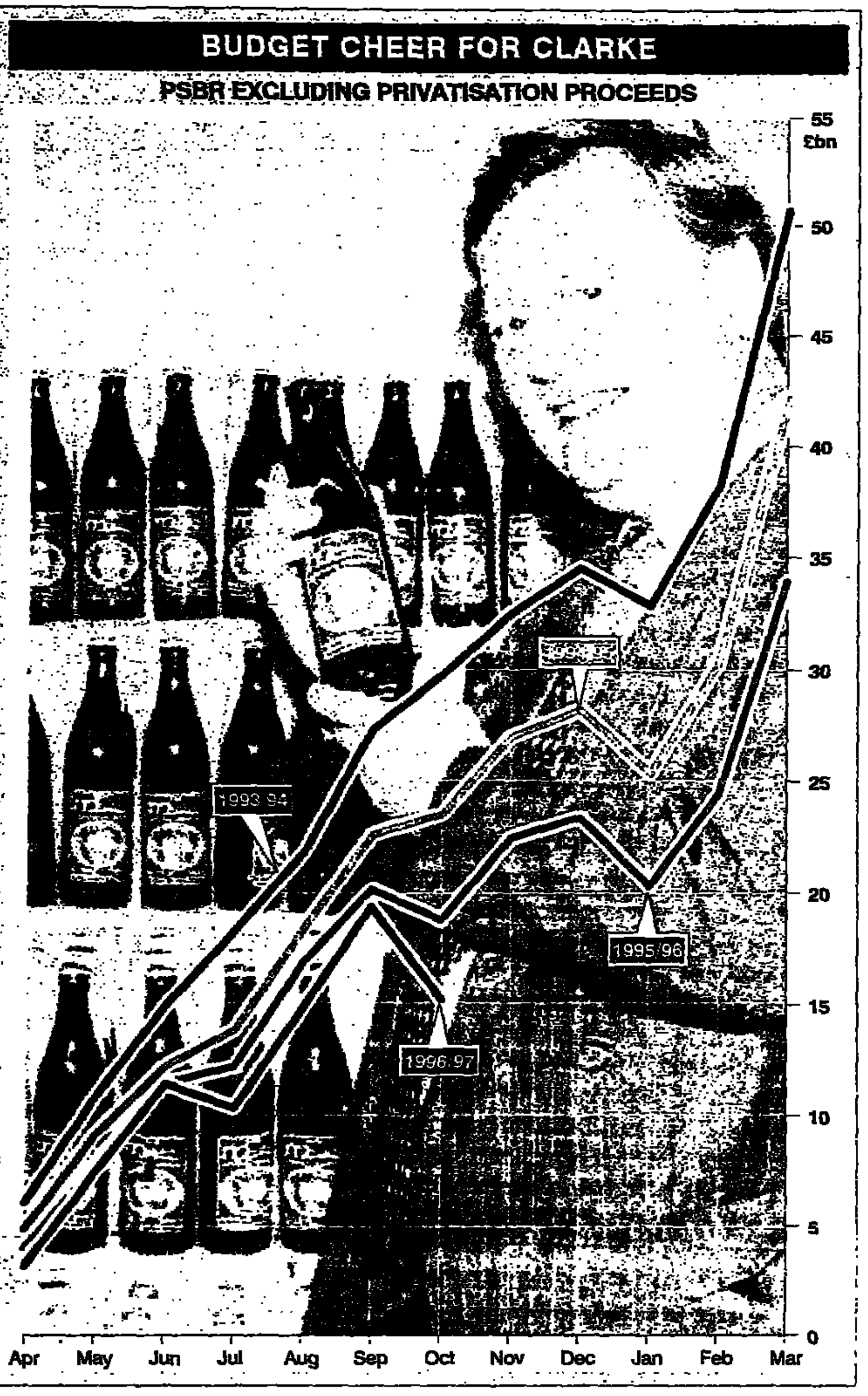
However, there were warning voices, too. Kevin Darlington, of Hoare Govett, noted that Mr Clarke had forecast in his November 1993 Budget that the PSBR would have fallen by 5 per cent of GDP whereas the out-turn would be nearer to 3.5 per cent. "In the light of such a track record and the still high level of public borrowing at what might prove to be the peak of the economic cycle, pleasant surprises like this should be banked, not spent," he said.

The British government bond market ended modestly higher after the news but the rally was cautious, with investors still hoping for a tight Budget, given worries about the economy's robust growth and possible inflationary pressures. Sterling's effective index against a basket of currencies closed at 92.0, unchanged from Friday's close, while the FT-SE 100 index closed only 3.9 higher, at 3,962.1.

Janet Bush, page 31

BUDGET CHEER FOR CLARKE

PSBR EXCLUDING PRIVATISATION PROCEEDS



Panic buyers in hunt for houses

By Robert Miller

A SHORTAGE of homes for sale has led to "panic buying" in some areas of the country by people scared of missing out on a housing boom, according to a new survey published today.

The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) says that October, which broke with tradition by outperforming September for the first time since 1982, also saw the fourteenth consecutive month-on-month increase in the proportion of chartered surveyors reporting house prices rises.

The RICS, which polls more than 250 members for its housing market survey, says that a major driving force behind the record monthly increases is the general shortage of properties. London and the South East "forged ahead", according to the latest survey, while East Anglia and the South West continued to see rising prices and activity. In the North, certain types of property sold well and there was a "brisk" trade in character houses in beauty spots such as the Lake District, reflecting a rising demand for holiday homes.

Ian Perry, of the RICS, said: "Many potential vendors are waiting for higher prices in 1997, while would-be purchasers become increasingly frustrated by the lack of choice. There are reports of panic buying in some areas. This is due to a misplaced fear of missing out on a 'property boom'.

"An expected influx of properties starting in the new year will tend to temper price increases and restore a sense of proportion to the market."

The RICS said that the strong market recovery "certainly does not need any help from the Chancellor in his forthcoming Budget". The current market imbalance is "fuelled by a general increase in demand, a race to beat the deadline for attractive fixed-rate mortgage offers and more people wanting to move from renting to owning", it added.

George defends role as watchdog

By Robert Miller
Banking correspondent

THE GOVERNOR of the Bank of England yesterday mounted a spirited defence of the Bank's role as a watchdog in the face of hostile questions from MPs.

Eddie George, flanked by Michael Foot, an executive director of the Bank and Ian Watt, an adviser, countered criticisms that included one of "supervisory complacency" from members of the Commons Treasury Select Committee, which is conducting its own inquiry into the £830 million collapse of Barings.

Diane Abbott, a Labour member, asked why it was that on each occasion after the crashes of Johnson Matthey, the Bank of Credit and Commerce International and Barings, the Bank said: "We have the best system in the world, banks will inevitably collapse and we are sharpening up our act."

Mr George, who said he found questions from Brian Sedgemore, another Labour member, about Brian Quinn, former Deputy Governor of the Bank and now a director at Nomura, "offensive", replied: "We have taken a great deal of action to smarten up our act."

On the role of senior executives at Barings at the time of the crash, and in particular Andrew Tuckey, the former deputy chairman, and Peter Norris, who was chief executive officer, Mr Sedgemore said: "I know a jury at the Old Bailey who would acquit nine out of ten cases that came before them but wouldn't acquit Tuckey and Norris."

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FTSE 100	3962.1	(+3.9)
Yield	3.99%	
FTSE All share	1948.57	(+0.42)
Nikkei	20796.37	(−133.36)
New York:		
Dow Jones	6342.07	(−5.96)*
S&P Composite	735.53	(−2.09)*

US RATE

Federal Funds	$5\frac{1}{4}$%*	($5\frac{3}{8}$%)
Long Bond	$100\frac{5}{32}$*	($100\frac{17}{32}$)
Yield	6.48%*	(6.46%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth interbank	$6\frac{11}{32}$%	($6\frac{11}{32}$%)
Liffe long gilt future (Dec)	$110\frac{7}{16}$	($110\frac{1}{16}$)

STERLING

New York:		
$	1.6700*	(1.6633)
London:		
$	1.6715	(1.6665)
DM	2.5100	(2.5134)
FFr	8.4844	(8.4910)
SFr	2.1210	(2.1306)
Yen	186.23	(185.14)
£ Index	92.0	(92.0)

DOLLAR

London:		
DM	1.5010*	(1.5093)
FFr	5.0750*	(5.0893)
SFr	1.2667*	(1.2788)
Yen	111.30*	(111.08)
$ Index	96.1	(96.2)

Tokyo close Yen 111.17

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Jan)	$23.05	($22.90)

GOLD

London close	$379.25	($379.75)

* denotes midday trading price

Budget fear

Insurers fear that the Government is considering more than doubling taxes on motor and household insurance premiums to 6 per cent in the Budget from the present insurance premium tax rate of 2.5 per cent. Page 28

Revenue demands £1.17m from Chelsea Football Club

By Jason Nissé

CHELSEA Football Club, the Premiership club owned by the AIM-listed Chelsea Village, is facing a demand for £1.17 million on unpaid tax after an investigation by the Inland Revenue.

The club is contesting the demand, but has listed it as a contingent liability in the accounts of Chelsea Village, which have been sent to shareholders but not yet filed at Companies' House.

The demand is nearly twice the operating profits of Chelsea in the financial year ended June 30. The club, whose deputy chairman, Matthew Harding, died in a helicopter crash last month, is trying to raise £30 million to complete the redevelopment of its ground at Stamford Bridge.

Reports at the weekend suggested that Ken Bates, Chelsea's chairman, had approached Mohamed Al Fayed, chairman of Harrod's, about investing in the club, but these have been dismissed.

Chelsea shares yesterday rose ½p to 120½p, giving a market value of £162 million.

The tax claim against Chelsea is believed to be the highest demand made by the Revenue as part of its two-year inquiry into the Premier League. Tax experts say that the Revenue is in talks with a number of clubs about unpaid tax, with heavy scrutiny on transfer payments, particularly relating to players from abroad.

Chelsea paid no tax in either of the last two financial years, in spite of making operating profits in both periods. After transfer fees, the company made a profit of £1.51 million in 1994-95 and incurred a loss of £2.95 million in 1995-96.

Alan Shaw, company secretary of Chelsea Village, said it was appealing against the Revenue's demand.

Telekom dials instant profit

By Oliver August

INVESTORS in Deutsche Telekom shared instant paper profits of £1.4 billion when the German telephone group floated on the New York and Frankfurt stock exchanges yesterday.

The shares rose from the DM28.50 offer price to DM33.90 during floor trading on the Frankfurt bourse. German traders said the flotation, Europe's biggest ever, had resulted in one of the busiest days in the bourse's history. Some 38 million Telekom shares changed hands.

At 9.30am, an official's shout of "DM33.20" opened the floodgate to frantic order activity. More than 100 dealers waved their order-books at the official brokers backed up by the advising banks Goldman Sachs, Dresdner and Deutsche Bank.

The shares are likely to plot an erratic course over the next few days before finding a more stable trend, traders and analysts said. The key influence on Deutsche Telekom trading in the short-term will be the positive effect of institutions seeking to buy in the open market what they could not get in the allotment of the heavily oversubscribed issue.

"That's certainly happening. We are seeing institutions, even in Germany, that only got around half of what they were after," said one analyst.

Telekom was by far the most-heavily traded German share, outpacing such blue-chip standards as Siemens, the electronics and engineering group, and BASF, the pharmaceutical company. Demand for the shares had outpaced supply by about five times, despite a last-minute 20 per cent increase in the issue size.

The size of the demand led to an allocation among domestic and international investors that dealers described as "very thin". German investors took two thirds of the issue, with the rest going abroad. British institutional investors received less than 10 per cent.

"This could be the highest level we will get for the shares for the next few days," one trader said, adding that he thought the share could fall back to about DM30.

Small investors, who were encouraged to participate in the flotation bonanza through a 50 pfennig-discount per share, could start to sell their allotments this week. If they take profits, they will each have made about £700 on an investment of £3,000.

Sea change, page 13

Barbie takes the wheel in Matchbox deal

From Richard Thomson in New York

BARBIE and her maker, Mattel, the world's largest toy company, are tightening their grip on the multi-billion-dollar toy market with the announcement of a $755 million merger with Tyco, America's third-largest toy company. The deal will link Barbie with the celebrated Matchbox miniature cars and remote-controlled vehicles produced by Tyco, creating a company with annual sales of more than $5 billion.

The all-paper deal has been approved by both boards. A big deal was widely expected after the failure of Mattel's unsolicited $5.2 billion bid for Hasbro, the second-largest toymaker, this year. Hasbro spurned Mattel's advances, citing insurmountable antitrust problems, but it has now been left in an awkward position in the cut-throat world of toys.

Tyco was an obvious merger candidate. Its shares have languished at between $5 and $7 for the past two years, resisting all attempts by the management to boost the company's performance. Net income in the third quarter this year rose slightly to $9.6 million on sales of $256.3 million. Despite the lacklustre performance, however, Mattel is paying $12.50 a share for Tyco, a premium of 78 per cent. As well as Barbie, Mattel produces brands such as the Fisher-Price toys and Hot Wheels. The company said these would combine well with Tyco's main products which include *Sesame Street* characters and View-Master 3D video games, as well as Matchbox.

Should Barbie harbour the ambition to move from clothes modelling into films, the merger could be her big chance. Last month Tyco launched a camcorder for children between six and 12 years old. It weighs less than a pound, costs $100 and shoots black and white pictures. It can be linked to the family's video to play back the work of every pint-sized Spielberg who owns one.

Actor John Goodman with Elmo, of *Sesame Street*, licensed to Tyco

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JOHN CHARCOL

Amoco's new field onstream

Oil has started flowing from Amoco's new Arkwright field in the North Sea. The Arkwright field, which cost almost £57 million, is 150 miles east of Aberdeen and is producing about 8,000 barrels per day, rising shortly to more than 12,000 barrels. A subsea pipeline connects Arkwright to Amoco's Arbroath platform, seven miles away, and oil will be transferred to the shore-based Cruden Bay installation by the Forties pipeline.

Vanguard deal

Shares of Vanguard Medica, the drug development company, rose 55p to 565p yesterday after it announced that SmithKline Beecham has agreed to buy the global marketing rights to its new anti-migraine treatment. The shares were floated at 450p in May. SmithKline, one of the world's largest pharmaceuticals companies, acquired the marketing rights for the product, known as VML 251, in exchange for a series of "milestone" payments that will cover its final development costs. The first payment of US$1 million is due shortly and will be followed by four payments of roughly similar size.

Vanguard will receive a share of the migraine drug's net operating profits when it reaches the market. The profit-sharing split was not revealed, though analysts believe Vanguard will receive about 20 per cent against SmithKline's 80 per cent.

Celsis on track

Celsis International, the microbial diagnostics company, is on track to earn its first profits in the 1997-98 financial year. The company reported a pre-tax loss of £2.6 million in the half year to September 30, down 10 per cent from a £2.9 million loss previously. The improvement reflected higher sales of its screening products and tight cost controls. Celsis said its £7.6 million in cash is sufficient to fund its operations for two years.

TONY LARKIN

Michael O'Brien of MasterCard, left, with Michael Keegan, chief executive of Mondex, in London yesterday

MasterCard taking 51% of Mondex

MASTERCARD International is taking a 51 per cent interest in Mondex International, the UK-based company that is developing a new cash card or electronic purse (Martin Barrow writes).

Mondex, set up by NatWest six years ago but now jointly owned by 17 banks, is conducting pilot schemes in Britain, Hong Kong, Canada, New Zealand and America.

The Mondex card can be charged with money from a cardholder's bank account and then used to make purchases. Cardholders can keep track of how much electronic cash is stored on their card.

MasterCard, the international credit card company, is believed to have paid about £90 million for its controlling stake. Michael Keegan, chief executive of Mondex, said the deal would speed the introduction of the system around the world.

Insurers fear doubling of tax on premiums in the Budget

By Marianne Curphey

INSURERS fear that the Government is considering more than doubling taxes on motor and household insurance premiums to a rate of 6 per cent in next Tuesday's Budget.

They claim that the Chancellor would like to bring insurance premium tax (IPT), currently 2.5 per cent, up to VAT levels of 17.5 per cent. They believe that raising it to 6 per cent in this autumn's Budget is the first step towards turning IPT into VAT. Such a move would bring Britain into line with some European countries where general insurance incurs VAT.

Insurers believe that that the Government sees insurance premiums as a "soft target" for a tax that has gone almost unnoticed by consumers.

The current tax is not charged on medical insurance, and Duncan Hopper, managing director of Legal & General healthcare, believes it is unlikely to be extended in the short term. However, he said: "Insurers are concerned that an increase in IPT could be preparing the way for IPT to be turned into VAT."

If the Chancellor were to raise IPT to 6 per cent, it would bring him an extra £1 billion a year, and take the total tax collected from non-life insurance policyholders to £1.75 billion next financial year. Such a move would be a blow to the industry, which vehemently opposed the introduction of IPT in the Budget of November 1993. The tax applied, from October 1 1994, to most forms of general insurance, except medical cover.

IPT is seen as an easy option by the Government because the public has so far paid up without complaint. It is considered an invisible tax because it is added to an insurance premium.

The Association of British Insurers has been lobbying for the tax to be scrapped or frozen. Mark Boléat, its director-general, says that a big rise in IPT would cause many policyholders drop insurance. "There is a danger of a jump in the number of motorists without cover, homeowners who cannot afford to pay and businesses being jeopardised," he said.

A Gallup poll for the ABI found 71 per cent of people considering IPT unfair.

Mr Boléat said the poorest fifth of wage-earners spent four times as great a proportion of their income on motor insurance as the best-paid fifth.

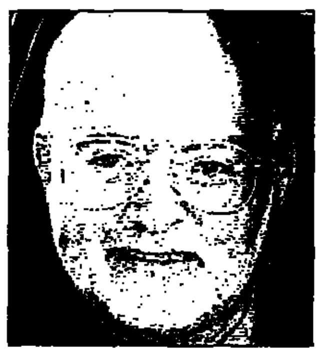
Pennington, page 29

Cab float go-ahead

COMPUTER CAB, the taxi company led by Geof Kaley, its managing director, received approval from its ultimate owner, the Licensed Taxi Drivers' Association, for its planned flotation on the Alternative Investment Market (Oliver August writes).

More than 60 per cent of the association's members voted for the flotation, which will raise money to pay for a £7.5 million satellite tracking system for the taxis.

The main objections raised by a few particularly vocal members concerned the potential loss of control over the system and the inability of drivers to receive free shares in exchange for the contributions made to date towards the system.



Kaley: vote of approval

New tax era dawns

MORE THAN 1.6 million taxpayers are set to get their first taste of self-assessment, the new tax regime aimed at the self-employed, higher-rate taxpayers and others who have complicated tax affairs (Caroline Merrell writes).

The Inland Revenue yesterday began to distribute statements of account to those who will come under the new rules. These statements will detail the tax due for the 1996-97 tax year, based on the previous year's tax. It will be payable in two instalments — in January and July. Many accountants believe the new rules could cause chaos. Pilot studies show that even the most financially astute find it difficult to fill in the forms correctly the first time round.

Consultant's post for David Lloyd

DAVID LLOYD, the former tennis player who recently left Whitbread, is to become a non-executive director of Snakeboard, the leisure company that is joining the Alternative Investment Market on Thursday (Fraser Nelson writes).

Mr Lloyd, who made £20 million when he sold David Lloyd Leisure to the brewing and leisure company last year, will act as a consultant for Snakeboard, which makes steerable skateboards. He will work an initial 12 days a year, and receive a basic annual salary of £15,000.

Snakeboard is raising £2.7 million from the float. In the 13 months to March 31, it made pre-tax profits of £383,000 on sales of £2.3 million. It will be valued at £20 million.

New curbs on strikes expected

GOVERNMENT plans for new curbs on strikes are set to be unveiled today in a move attacked by unions as moving power to bad employers.

Proposals to end unions' immunity from being sued for damages over the effect of strikes are expected to be announced by Ian Lang, President of the Board of Trade.

The TUC said that the expected Green Paper on industrial relations reform was "far more extreme" than Mr Lang suggested at this year's Conservative Party conference.

According to a leak to the TUC, proposals include requiring that strike votes be backed by a majority of those entitled to vote.

Strike debate, page 31

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Northern dismisses CE bid as too low

NORTHERN ELECTRIC, the besieged privatised utility, demanded a "rapid end" to the uncertainty over the £651 million hostile bid launched last month by an American power group. The company told shareholders to reject the 630p-a-share bid from CE Electric as too low. The regional electricity company issued its defence document to investors saying it was worth far more to the US predator. David Morris, Northern's chairman, said the market was currently uncertain about whether the bid would be referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. "We believe that this bid should be decided on value and Northern Electric calls for a rapid end to this period of uncertainty," he said.

CE Electric has already captured control of 29.9 per cent of Northern, buying shares at its offer price of 630p. Northern said it had delivered a total return to shareholders of 30.8 per cent since flotation, compared with the average total return of 23.8 per cent delivered by the five regional electricity companies that are still independent. It reminded investors that they would receive a special dividend of 56.5p a share in February, as long as the American bid failed.

Semple Cochrane to float

SEMPLE COCHRANE, the engineering services group that recently won a contract to design and install a new security system for the main prison on Bangkok, is coming to the market in a flotation expected to value the company at £14 million. The company, whose activities also include maintenance of factories, is raising £4.5 million. Tom Clark, chairman, Ian McKendrick, managing director, John McKee, executive director, and Wilson Evans, finance director, bought the company 16 years ago for £100,000, and are on course to retain a stake worth £1.75 million each.

NatWest job changes

SENIOR management changes have been made by NatWest Markets after its acquisitions of Gleacher, Gartmore, Greenwich and Hambro Magan. Peter Hall, deputy chief executive and head of North American operations, is to return to the UK as president and chief operating officer by the end of the year. Roger Byatt, deputy chief executive of NatWest Markets, will retire in March 1997 after 40 years with the banking group. Michael Allsop, senior managing director and global head of specialised finance, is to be president and regional managing director of the North American arm.

Hickson sells Manro

HICKSON INTERNATIONAL, the chemicals company, yesterday took the largest step of its restructuring programme by selling Manro, a performance chemicals subsidiary, to its management for £26.5 million. The proceeds of the deal, Hickson's second since the £22.3 million disposal of Hickson Kerley in January, will be used to reduce borrowings of £70 million. The company made a loss of £16 million on the sale. David Wilbraham, Hickson's recently appointed chief executive, said that he expected further disposals next year. Hickson shares closed ½p easier, at 68p.

Bankruptcies 'stable'

THE number of bankruptcies and company liquidations remained relatively stable in the third quarter of the year, according to figures released by KPMG. Recorded bankruptcies rose by only three, to 5,446, and insolvent liquidations showed a 2.5 per cent rise, to 3,380. Most areas saw rises in company voluntary liquidations between the second and third quarters, except South West and North West England. A survey by the Society of Practitioners of Insolvency, published yesterday, showed almost 100,000 jobs were salvaged from company failures in the year to June 30.

Lloyds selling NZ bank

LLOYDS TSB Group, the UK banking group, is raising around A$85 million (about £40.5 million) through the sale of Lloyds Bank NZA to the Australian arm of ABN Amro. Lloyds Bank NZA is a specialist licensed bank with assets of A$1.1 billion and a staff of 71. The bank forms part of National Bank of New Zealand, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Lloyds TSB, which said that it was selling Lloyds NZA "as part of its global strategy to focus on the local New Zealand market". For ABN Amro, one of the largest foreign banks in Australia, the Lloyds NZA deal will add to its assets of $5 billion.

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells		Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.20	2.04	Malta	0.630	0.575
Austria Sch	18.80	17.10	Netherlds Gld	2.957	2.727
Belgium Fr	54.54	50.24	New Zealand $	2.49	2.27
Canada $	2.333	2.173	Norway Kr	11.08	10.28
Cyprus Cyp£	0.794	0.739	Portugal Esc	264.00	245.50
Denmark Kr	10.18	9.38	S Africa Rd	8.34	7.54
Finland Mkk	8.10	7.45	Spain Pta	217.00	204.00
France Fr	8.85	8.20	Sweden Kr	11.64	10.84
Germany Dm	2.68	2.45	Switzerland Fr	2.25	2.07
Greece Dr	410	385	Turkey Lira	169000	161000
Hong Kong $	13.49	12.49	USA $	1.761	1.631
Iceland	115	95			
Ireland Pt	1.05	0.97			
Israel Shk	5.68	5.01			
Italy Lira	2629	2474			
Japan Yen	198.90	182.90			

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank. Different rates apply to traveller's cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

Cardiff Bay

The future has never been brighter for Cardiff Bay with the investment by Tarmac Richardson in a £30m leisure complex. With the completion of the Barrage in 1998 and the creation of a 500 acre lake, 2 million visitors in the year 2000 now looks certain.

These developments build on Cardiff Bay's existing leisure and tourist successes. A strong summer programme of events, unique modern and traditional architecture and environment, and outstanding visitor attractions. Harry Ramsden's world famous fish restaurant in the Bay, only opened a year ago, is already its best performer, serving 13,000 diners per week.

The opportunities to succeed in this superb waterfront leisure environment have never been clearer.

Not just virtual...
...but reality

Europe's most exciting waterfront development

If you want to know more about the reality of Cardiff Bay please contact us at:

Baltic House Mount Stuart Square Cardiff CF1 6DH
Telephone +44 (0)1222 585918
www.cardiff-bay.co.uk e-mail: marketing@cardiff-bay.co.uk

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

0171-782 7344

LEGAL NOTICES

ANTHONY NEAL (SOUTHERN) LIMITED
(In Creditors Voluntary Liquidation)
The Insolvency Act 1986

In accordance with Rule 4.106 of the Insolvency Rules 1986, notice is hereby given that I, K D Goodman, FCA a Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Messrs. Leonard Curtis & Co, PO Box 553, 30 Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd Floor), London W2 6LP, was appointed Liquidator of the above Company by the members and creditors on 13th November 1996. All debts and claims should be sent to me at the above address.

All creditors who have not already done so are invited to prove their claims in writing to me. No further public advertisement of invitation to prove debts will be given.

Dated this 13th November 1996
K D GOODMAN, FCA, *Liquidator*

ANTHONY NEAL (SOUTHERN) LIMITED
(In Creditors Voluntary *Liquidation*)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Creditors of the above named Company, which is being voluntarily wound up, are required, on or before the 30th December 1996 to send in their full forenames and surname, their addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debts or claims and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned, K D Goodman FCA, of Leonard Curtis & Co, PO Box 553, 30 Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd Floor), London W2 6LP the Liquidator of the said Company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are, personally or by their Solicitors to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.

Dated this 13th day of November 1996
K D GOODMAN, Liquidator

Notice of Appeal for Heirs

The following person died in Schlieren, Canton Zurich, Switzerland on 5 May 1996:

Lilian Alice Hundler, née Licence, from Staffelbach in Canton Aargau, who was born on 5 September 1908 in Lewisham, London. She was the daughter of Albert Edward Licence and Emily Lilian Licence née Sames, and the widow of Jakob Hundler (26.4.1907 - 26.2.1983), and was latterly resident at Lyrenweg 24, 8047 Zurich, Switzerland.

The following persons are requested to give notification of their interest in the estate:

1. Any legitimate or illegitimate children of the deceased (or their descendants), or if there are no such children or descendants,

2. Any persons to whom she was related through her parents, ie full or half brothers or sisters of the deceased (or their descendants), or if there are no such relatives or descendants,

3. Any persons to whom the deceased was related through her grandparents.

The persons to whom this appeal is addressed are hereby requested to notify the Court mentioned below within one year of the the date of publication of this notice of appeal for heirs, enclosing documentary evidence of their rights of succession; if they fail to do so their rights against the estate will be disregarded.

Zürich, 28 August 1996
District Court of Zürich
Judge for Estates and Succession
Clerk of the Court
Ms B. Hadjikhani, Lic. iur.
[illegible] 12
Postfach
CH-8026 Zürich
Switzerland

LICENSING ACT 1964
NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A SPECIAL HOURS CERTIFICATE

We, Brian John Mayo, Sarah Littlecott and Neil Gordon Blair Bennett of 7 Davys Court, Funtington, Chichester, PO18, 28 Ructon Avenue, Drayton, Portsmouth, Hampshire and 86 Cambridge Road, Walsworth, Hitchin, Hertfordshire respectively.

HEREBY GIVE YOU NOTICE that we intend to apply to the said Licensing Justices at the Transfer Sessions to be held at the Magistrates Court, 176A Lavender Hill, London at 10:30am on Tuesday 3rd December 1996 for a Special Hours Certificate under Section 77 of the Licensing Act 1964, for licensed premises situated at 2 Hardwicks Way, Wandsworth, London and known by the sign of the "Litten Tree".

AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE that if such a Certificate is granted Section 76 of the said Act will apply to the said part of the premises from 3rd December 1996.

Dated this 8th Day of November 1996. Eversheds, 11/12 Queen Square, Bristol, BS1 4NT, Solicitors & Authorised Agents For & On behalf of the applicants.

No. 006037 of 1996
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
COMPANIES COURT
IN THE MATTER OF CROWN PRODUCTS GROUP PLC
AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated 13th November 1996 confirming the reduction of the share premium account of the above-named Company by £11,636,000 was registered by the Registrar of Companies on 14th November 1996.

DATED this 15th day of November 1996
Fox Williams,
City Gate House,
39-45 Finsbury Square,
London EC2A 1UU.
Tel: 0171 628 2000
Fax: 0171 628 2100
Solicitors for the above-named Company

PUBLIC NOTICES

CHARITY COMMISSION
Charity: The Francis John Wethered Scholarship.
Worthing, West Sussex
CC Reference No. 3010650

The Trustees hereby give notice that they have passed a Resolution under Section 74(2)(d) of the Charities Act 1993 for the purpose of modifying the powers exercisable by the Trustees in administering the charity. Copies of the Resolution may be obtained by applying in writing to the Trustees at the following address: Malcolm, Wilson & Cobby, 3 Liverpool Terrace, Worthing, West Sussex BN11 1TA.

Any interested person wishing to make representations about the Resolution may do so within a period of 6 weeks from the date of this notice, quoting the Charity reference at the head of this notice and by writing to the Charity Commissioners for England and Wales at: Woodfield House, Tangier, Taunton, TA1 4BL.

CHARITY COMMISSION
Charity - The Headlight Foundation (also known as The Jeffrey Kalson Foundation)
Scheme for the sale of the charity's property to a trustee.

The Commissioners have made a Scheme for this Charity. A copy can be seen for the next month at 82 Liverpool Road, Islington, London N1 0RE or a copy can be obtained by sending a stamped, addressed envelope to St. Alban's House, 57-60 Haymarket, London SW1Y 4QX quoting reference number TRB-8901-CD(Ldn).

CHARITY COMMISSION
Charity: The Guild of Air Pilots Benevolent Fund
Scheme to widen the objects of theCharity

The Commissioners have made a scheme for this Charity.

A copy can be seen for the next month at No.291 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8QF, or a copy can be obtained by sending a stamped, addressed envelope to St.Alban's House, 57-60 Haymarket, London SW1Y 4QX quoting the reference number TRB-15838-CD (Ldn).

CHARITY COMMISSION
Charity: The Urosevic Foundation
Scheme to vary declaration of trust dated 23 July 1990
Reference: TG-7512-CD(Ldn)

The Charity Commissioners have made a Scheme for this charity. A copy can be seen for the next month at 7 Bonchurch Road London W.10 or a copy can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to St Alban's House, 57-60 Haymarket, London SW1Y 4QX quoting the reference above.

TRUSTEE ACTS

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to s27 of the TRUSTEE Act, 1925 that any person having a CLAIM against or an INTEREST in the ESTATE of any of the deceased person's whose names, addresses and descriptions are set out below is hereby required to send particulars in writing of his claim or interest to the person or persons mentioned in relation to the deceased person concerned before the date specified; after which date the estate of the deceased will be distributed by the personal representatives among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

MARY EMILY LUNAN of [illegible] Cottingham Road, London SW8, widow, died on 7 July 1996. Particulars to Harbottle & Lewis, Hanover House, 14 Hanover Square, London W1R 0BE, Administratrix Ann Teresa Lunan. Claims before 20 January 1997.

مكبرا من الاصل

☐ Questions over Dieter Bock's role ☐ Guide to legal insider trading ☐ ABI's fears seem justified

Lonrho's Tiny point of principle

☐ WHAT a peculiar company Lonrho is. A couple of hundred respectable pensioners turn up at Kensington Town Hall to throw a few brickbats at directors and oppose the £327 million sale of the Metropole hotels. Sir John Leahy, Lonrho's chairman, has the comfort of 421 million proxies nestling in his back pocket, so it is all about a deal that is already as good as done.

So far, so typical. But Lonrho's board, and Sir John in particular, do not inspire much confidence. Sir John yesterday confessed his ignorance of the workings of the hotel cycle — an issue central to the merits of the Metropole deal. He went on to be vague about Lonrho's strategy, and to make it clear that he has no great appetite for his job. This is, let us remember, the chairman of a £1 billion company that is planning to split itself in two over the next few months.

And then there is the ghostly presence of Dieter Bock — no longer the chief executive, no longer a shareholder, but apparently still keen to take a major interest in Lonrho's African trading businesses after the demerger. Why has Mr Bock sold out his 18.3 per cent stake to Anglo American Corporation, seemingly weakening his bargaining power ahead of the key negotiations? The recent sale made a £100 million profit for Mr Bock but has triggered a collapse in Lonrho's share price.

Tiny Rowland, Lonrho's founder, had this to say: "It is a clear conflict of interest for Mr Bock to remain on the board where his knowledge of the company's affairs will help him bargain with Lonrho. Mr Bock can't work in the interests of the company or its shareholders as a member of Lonrho's board, when at the same time he is trying to negotiate a deal for himself. Why has the board allowed Mr Bock to remain?"

It is a question that this extraordinary company would do well to answer.

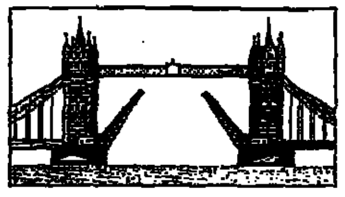
Debt loophole must be plugged

☐ YOU are a struggling public company finally forced to admit that trading will never pull you out of the hole, and pay off your massive debts. The time has come to pull all your bankers into a huddle and discuss a financial restructuring, to convert some of that debt into equity.

There will follow weeks, stretching into months, of agonised negotiations, lots of table-thumping, irritating leaks to the press, probably the odd strategic walk-out. Shareholders will inevitably suffer and it is not yet possible to assess the damage to the value of their holdings. The only people who can take any sensible view are the management and those banks who are party to the negotiations.

Should one of those bankers, learning of something that suggests shareholders are in for a rougher ride than anyone had expected, pick up the phone and suggest the broking side of his business dumps the shares pronto, and should that trade be carried out, all concerned are probably guilty of a criminal offence. I say probably, because the law on insider dealing as governed by the 1993 Criminal Justice Act is a fragile one, and some curious decisions have emerged from the courts. In fact, this sort of thing happens quite a lot in the City, but it should not. Stockbrokers have gone to jail for actions such as these, if perhaps not in sufficiently large numbers yet.

PENNINGTON



But there is one example of flagrant insider dealing that is quite legal. That banker could quite cheerfully pick up the phone to colleagues and instruct them to deal, on the basis of information known only to insiders, and it would not be a matter for any court of law. This is in the growing market of debt trading, and the reason it lies outside the criminal law is that this market barely existed when the rules were drawn up.

The borrowings of companies such as Brent Walker and Eurotunnel, to name two notable recent examples, are freely traded at a percentage of their face value, that percentage based on the chances of the debt being repaid in full. Specialist traders exist, complete with their own research teams. Once a company goes into the half-life that is a financial restructuring, the duties of the board, and how they are required to distinguish between the interests of shareholders and creditors, become rather vague. But the banks can do pretty well what they will, and they do. They are clearly in a far better position to know the risks than ordinary shareholders, who must be kept outside the charmed circle of negotiations. Yet the rule is still *caveat emptor*; you deal with a well-connected bank at your peril.

It is perfectly clear that shareholders' interests demand some change, whether to bring debt trading within the insider trading laws or, perhaps better, to ban banks once negotiations have started from trading in debt at all. This had better happen before the next round of financial restructurings that will almost certainly be needed once interest rates ratchet up again.

A final thought. Companies can use section 212 notices to find out the owner of quite small chunks of their equity. But there is no matching facility to discover who owns the borrowings that might one day convert into a large number of shares.

Good time to raise tax on insurance

☐ THE Association of British Insurers is probably pushing on a firmly closing door in trying to oppose any increase in insurance premium tax (IPT) in next week's Budget. The tax came in three years ago as an alternative to VAT on non-life insurance premiums, and the rates that apply to such policies on the Continent are far higher than the 2.5 per cent that applies in the UK, being much closer to the proper VAT rate. Ergo, on the basis that closer European harmonisation means the importation of the worst practices from the Continent, why not push up rates to the insured to the 6 per cent that is now rumoured?

The truth, of course, is that this is an imposition that is seen to hurt no one, that hardly shows on the household bills, and that no one in consequence complains about — a little like the airport tax that adds a few pounds to the cost of each holiday. Disregard the fact that IPT is levied on medical insurance, so a raise would seem to cut against the principle that we should be encouraged to take care of our own future welfare needs. Better to raise the rate now, at a time when the insurance cycle is widely seen to have turned and higher premiums are on the way for all in due course.

Soundbite sample

☐ THE debate on Labour's daft utilities tax is now over at Westminster with the politicians, which means rational thought has been replaced by the soundbite. Brian Mawhinney's claim that the tax could cost consumers more than £200 a year is a classic example, assuming as it does that the lost funds would be clawed back entirely from customers, rather coming from lower dividends and higher company debt. Dr Mawhinney has a final shot. His figures might be wrong; why doesn't Gordon Brown come clean and admit Labour's precise tax plans, so removing all doubt? Indeed, and with the uncertainty among those contemplating taking out new insurance policies, would Ken Clarke today care to give us the details of his Budget?

Thorn alert knocks 10% off shares

By Sarah Cunningham

CAUTIOUS WORDS from Thorn on prospects for next year sent the rental group's shares diving 10 per cent yesterday as it unveiled its first set of interim results since splitting from EMI.

Mike Metcalf, chief executive of Thorn, which demerged from EMI in August, said that tough trading conditions in America and a delay in cutting costs in the UK would "have some impact on the outlook for the next financial year".

Shares in the company, which operates the Radio Rental and Crazy George's chains in the UK and Rent-A-Center in the US, closed down 34p at 313½p.

Retail analysts reduced their full-year forecasts, with Tony Shiret, of BZW, shifting from £187 million to £182 million for this year and from £202 million to £195 million for next year. "[For Thorn] to make these statements now is very disappointing," he said.

The company reported pre-tax profit after exceptional charges for the six months to September 30 of £37.8 million compared with £71.5 million a year ago. Underlying pre-tax profit rose to £79.3 million, but was hit by a provision covering the disposal of 182 properties that reverted to Thorn from Escom after it went into receivership earlier this year.

The delay in cutting UK costs comes from the failure to complete the roll-out of Thornlink, a national service call centre, by the end of this year. It is now likely by the end of 1997, Mr Metcalf said.

The temporary closure of the first Paris branch of Crazy George's after complaints that its advertising might mislead some customers into overpaying for goods had attracted a huge wave of public interest, he said. Crazy George's rents electrical goods and furniture to people who have difficulty obtaining credit. Customers can choose an "option to own", but end up paying much more than if they were to buy the goods outright.

Sixteen new branches of Crazy George's opened in the UK in the first half, making a total of 47. A total of 275 are planned. The Paris branch, closed last week after one day's trading, is likely to reopen in about a week.

The company is facing difficulties on two fronts in America. It said sales that in the second quarter were disappointing. The company also faces legal challenges in several states that do not have legislation covering rental-purchase agreements.

The interim dividend of 3.7p (3.4p) is on the back of earnings per share of 12p (10.9p) and is payable on February 28.

Metcalfe: first results

Tempus, page 30

Diploma maintains dividend

By Fraser Nelson

DIPLOMA, the electronics and building products company, is maintaining the annual dividend at 14.5p a share after suffering a 14 per cent downturn in pre-tax profits to £23.5 million in the year ended September 30.

Christopher Thomas, chairman and chief executive, said that the company was in much better health than the figures suggested, in spite of suffering difficult market conditions.

Sales rose to £235 million from £216 million, helped by contributions from Albacom Telcoms and Hercules Hydraulics, its two US acquisitions. Earnings dropped to 27p a share from 31.7p, but the final dividend was held at 10p.

Diploma's electronics component distribution business was hit by over-supply and price cuts, which hit margins. However, it said that conditions should recover next year.

Mr Thomas said that its acquisition of Eldersteels, a stainless steel stockholder, was poorly timed. Bought last November, it was hit by a 30 per cent drop in mill prices. Mr Thomas said that the division was unlikley to become profitable for another six months.

Pensions windfall lifts 600 Group

By Paul Durman

600 GROUP, the machine tool manufacturer, has received a £15 million repayment from the company's pension scheme, which lifted pre-tax profits from £4.8 million to £30.4 million in the six months to September 30.

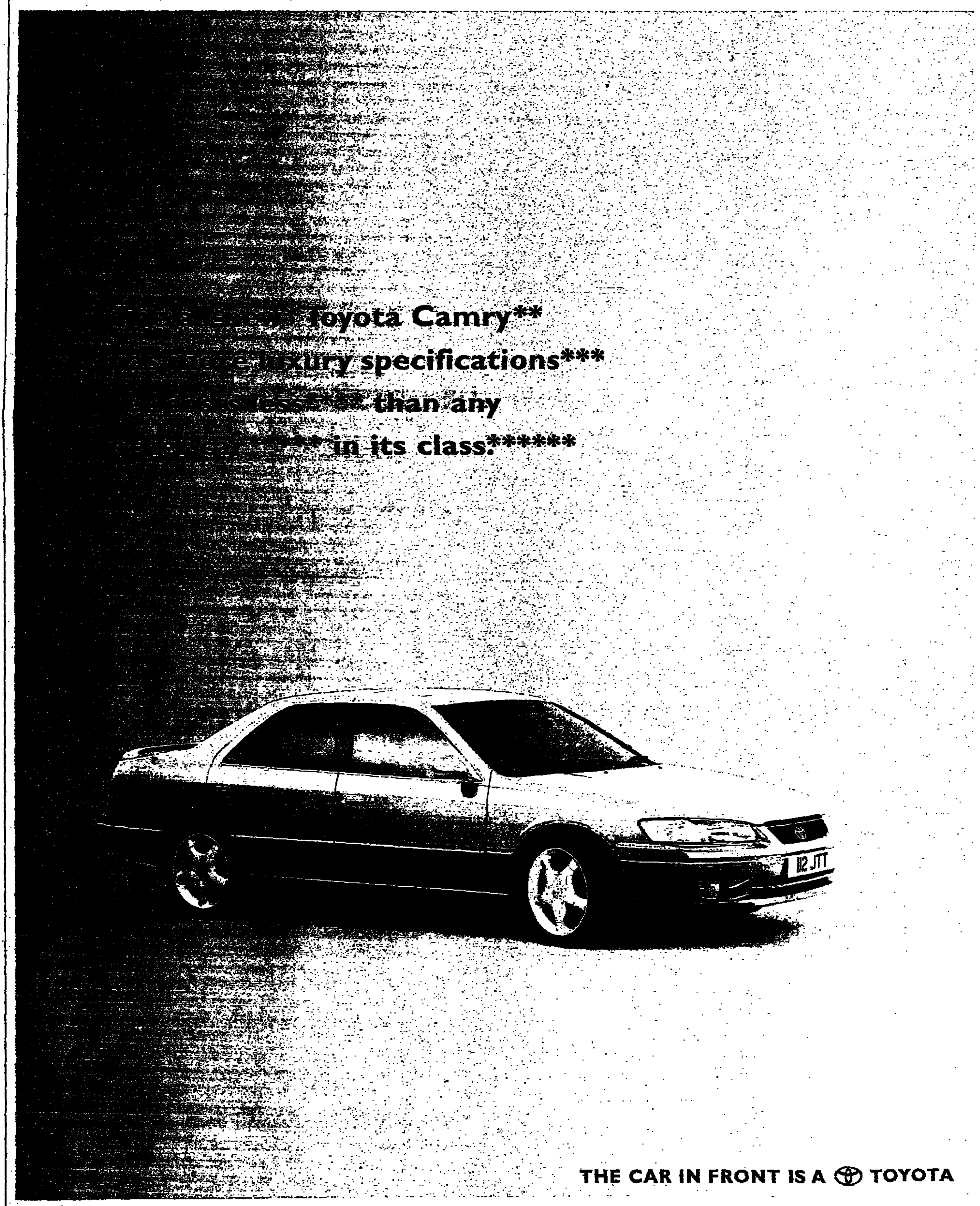
Colin Gaskell, group managing director, said that the £150 million pension fund still had a surplus of around £20 million and he expects the company will continue to enjoy a pension contribution holiday for several years.

Trading profits were also strong, increasing by 66 per cent, to £5.1 million. This was based on a rise in sales of only 5 per cent, to £67.2 million, in the period. However, 600's shares fell 17p, to 249½p. One explanation was that Cazenove, the company's broker, had cut its profit forecast, although the company still expects further growth in the second half.

Dr Gaskell, who will be 60 in May, is to be succeeded by Tony Sweeten, who heads the machine tool division.

The interim dividend is doubled, to 1.5p a share.

Tempus, page 30



*No, we haven't just changed the design of the ash-tray and stuck a light in the glove compartment. When we say new, we mean new. New styling as you can see, new interior, new everything. **OK, apart from the name. ***So now you're thinking "this is where they say more specifications in the headline and then try to sneak out of it down here in the small print," aren't you? Well, as a matter of fact, you're wrong. The Camry really does have more specs than Elton John: ABS, climate-control air-conditioning, electric windows, sun-roof, and mirrors and lots more we could mention. All right then *will* mention: RDS stereo cassette, remote alarm/immobiliser, foglamps, wood-grain trim, twin airbags and, on the 2.2 Camry Sport, Connolly leather seats, body styling package and 17" alloy wheels. Whatever happened to trust, by the way? ****You're not half a suspicious lot. But just so it's clear, the Camry V6, (still spec'd up to the eyeballs as per the footnote above mind you) is nearly four thousand pounds cheaper than the otherwise excellent Vauxhall Omega CDX, and over ten thousand pounds cheaper (!) than a Mercedes E230 Classic, to take two totally random (but comparably specified) examples. *****(kar), *sb*. Wheeled vehicle. b. = MOTOR CAR. ******There are three new Camry models in all. The 2.2 (£19,599), the V6 (£24,609) and from January, the 2.2 Camry Sport shown above, which comes in at £23,175, on the road – *excluding* rear seat belts. Only joking, they're included, they're included. Call 0800 777 555 and order one.

STOCK MARKET MICHAEL CLARK

Merger talk fires up Shell and British Gas shares

TALK of a £40 billion merger between struggling **British Gas** and **Shell** might seem like so much hot air, but it was just what City speculators were looking for on a cold November day.

For weeks, City folk have been talking of a possible bid for British Gas. Weekend reports on "Project Napoleon" suggested the likely bidder was Shell, even though both sides were privately denying the story yesterday. Even so, British Gas raced up 19½p to 228½p, extending Friday's rise as HSBC James Capel and UBS, a rival broker, gave the price their support. In heavy turnover a massive 34.1 million shares change hands.

But while brokers refuse to rule out a bid for British Gas at some stage, most the them appear unconvinced that Shell is the company ready to make such a move. They point to regulatory and gas supply contracts as hurdles to any deal. Cash-rich Shell finished 10½p dearer at 996½p.

It was left up to another strong performance by the bond market to keep the rest of the equity market afloat. In thin trading, the FT-SE 100 index fluctuated in narrow limits for much of the day.

Opening with an eight-point rise in response to another record-breaking performance by the Dow Jones industrial average in New York on Friday, it soon moved into negative territory, weighed down by a large number of ex-dividends. It ended the session 3.9 points up at 3,962.1 as turnover reached 707 million shares, partly inflated by the turnover in British Gas.

British Energy, floated off earlier this year, rose 2¾p to a new high of 126p ahead of maiden figures on Thursday.

Elsewhere in electricity, **Yorkshire Electricity** was chased 11p higher at 746½p on mounting speculation about a bid from Entergy, the US power company. **Northern Electric**, currently fighting off the unwanted attentions of CE Electric, fell 12½p to 596½p after publishing its defence document. The group is offering shareholders a special dividend if they stay loyal. **London Electric** was another firm market, climbing 10½p to 636½p.

The recent revival in shares of Philip Morris, the US tobacco and food group, on Wall Street has begun rubbing off on **BAT Industries**, up 9p at 436p. The City gave a cool reception to maiden interim figures from the newly-demerged **Thorn**, with the price tumbling 34p to 313½p on turnover of more than four million shares. Pre-tax profits of £79.3 million, against £71.5 million last time, were before exceptionals and roughly in line with market forecasts, but cautious comments about its Thornlink subsdiary and currency factors have prompted brokers to downgrade their estimates for the full year. Nick Bubb, of MeesPierson, the broker, expects to reduce his forecast from £192 million to the £185 million level.

Brokers gave the thumbs down to half-year figures from **600 Group**, with the price dropping 17p to 249½p amid signs of a slowdown in the US market where a strong pound works against it.

One of the best gains on the day was seen in **Vanguard Medica**. The price climbed 55p to 565p on news that VML 251, its anti-migraine treatment, was progressing to phase three trials. **SmithKline Beecham**, down 10½p at 753½p, will market the drug worldwide. Vanguard came to market in May this year at 450p a share.

A profits warning saw shares of **Forward Group** plunge 149½p to 132p, wiping £81 million from the group's stock market value of £154 million. Destocking and the reluctance of customers to place fresh orders are likely to wipe out all the group's profits in the second half. As a result, brokers have almost halved their earlier profit forecasts of about £13 million.

Rushmere Wynn fell ¼p to 2p after announcing it could make a loss in the the ten months to September. It follows the sale of HS Printers and subsequent write-offs.

Provend, the vending machine supplier, made a slow start to first-time trading on the stock market, with the price opening at just a 1p premium to its offer price of 125p. It later slipped to 124p before picking up to end the day at 132½p, a premium of 7½p on turnover of 2.15 million shares. Provend was the subject of a management buyout from Sketchley in 1990.

Card Clear, the supplier of card payment and fraud prevention services, firmed 2p to 32p after announcing details of a joint venture with Vodafone to validate credit cards. Its recent merger with Cardcast has also gone unconditional.

Maiden figures from **Fibernet**, a newcomer, lifted the shares 2p to 124½p. Losses from the supplier of high-speed digital networks were down on last year. Its own broker, Greig Middleton, is forecasting a further deficit for 1997 and a surplus in 1998.

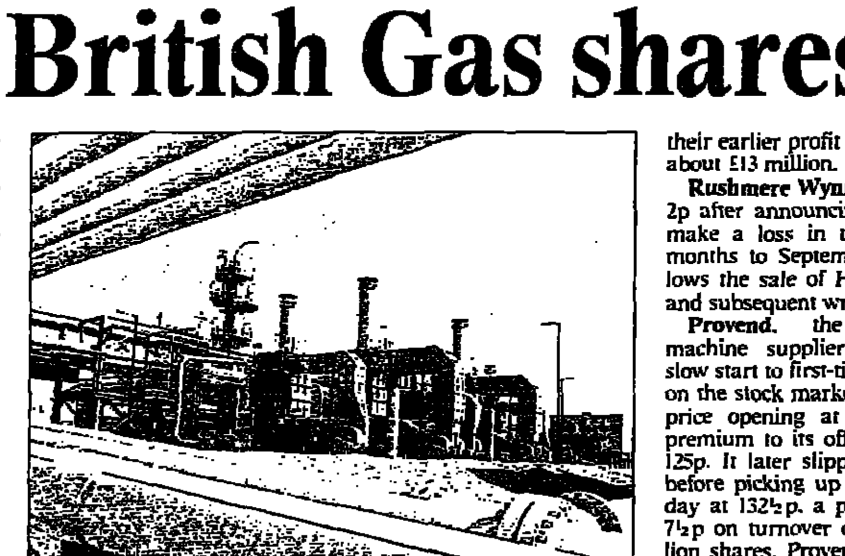
☐ **GILT-EDGED:** The London bond market was able to extend recent gains supported by the bigger than expected budget deficit repayment figure of £4.39 billion. Brokers argued that this latest move might give the Chancellor more scope for manoeuvre in next week's Budget.

Sentiment was also bolstered by the Bank of England's decision to open up the opportunity for more overseas investors to be paid their dividends without being taxed at source.

In the futures pit business was described as brisk for a Monday as the December series of the Long Gilt climbed £⅜ to £110 7/16, with a total of 54,000 contracts completed.

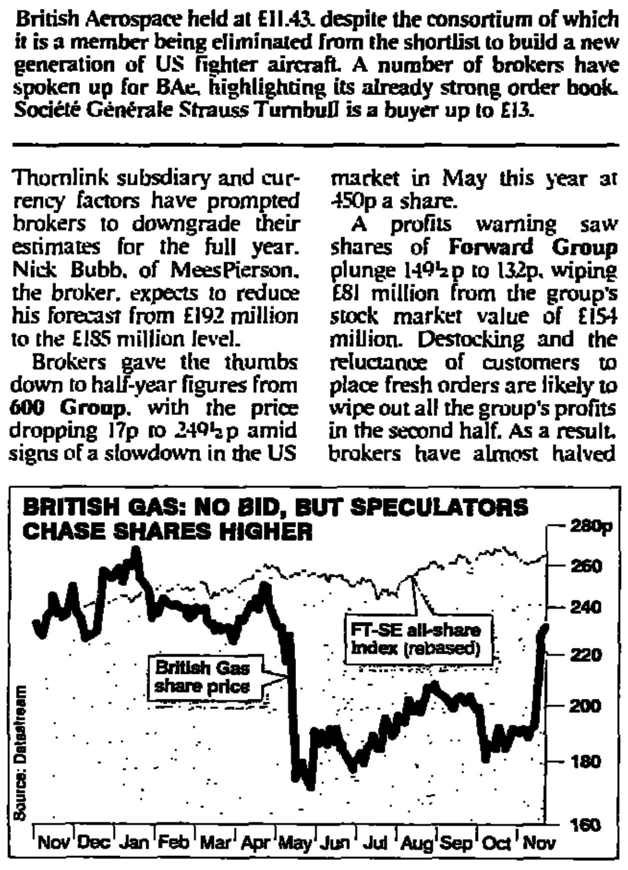
In longs, benchmark Treasury 8 per cent 2015 put on £7/16 to £102¾, while among shorter-dated coupons, Treasury 8 per cent 2000 was £5/32 better at £103.

☐ **NEW YORK:** Wall Street stocks hesitated in their two-week surge, with technology stocks succumbing to profit-taking and blue chips posting mild losses. At midday, the Dow Jones industrial average was down 5.96 points to 6,342.07.



British Gas raced up 19½p to 228½p, extending Friday's rise

British Aerospace held at £11.43, despite the consortium of which it is a member being eliminated from the shortlist to build a new generation of US fighter aircraft. A number of brokers have spoken up for BAe, highlighting its already strong order book. Société Générale Strauss Turnbull is a buyer up to £13.



MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):
Dow Jones .... 6342.07 (-5.96)
S&P Composite .... 735.53 (-2.09)

Tokyo:
Nikkei Average .... 20796.37 (-133.36)

Hong Kong:
Hang Seng .... 13042.80 (+153.43)

Amsterdam:
EOE Index .... 610.04 (+1.16)

Sydney:
AO .... 2383.8 (-3.5)

Frankfurt:
DAX .... 2763.84 (-31.96)

Singapore:
Straits .... 2178.03 (-15.61)

Brussels:
General .... 10260.32 (+22.43)

Paris:
CAC-40 .... 2228.81 (-11.52)

Zurich:
SKA Gen .... 819.40 (-1.50)

London:
FT 30 .... 2777.7 (+1.9)
FT 100 .... 3962.1 (+3.9)
FTSE Mid 250 .... 4400.2 (-9.7)
FTSE 350 .... 1973.9 (+0.6)
FTSE Eurotrack 100 .... 1827.08 (+1.00)
FT All-Share .... 1948.57 (+0.42)
FT Non Financials .... 2038.06 (+1.19)
FT Fixed Interest .... 115.85 (+0.13)
FT Govt Secs .... 94.49 (+0.39)
Bargains 40843
SEAQ Volume 707.2m
USM (Datastrm) .... 201.51 (-0.51)
US$ .... 1.6714 (+0.0053)
German Mark .... 2.5094 (-0.0036)
Exchange Index .... 92.0 (same)
Bank of England official close (4pm)
£:ECU 1.3011
£:SDR 1.1430
RPI .... 153.8 Oct (2.7%) Jan 1987=100
RPIX .... 153.6 Oct (3.3%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

Barrasford	7	...	
Beaufort (3)	4¼	+	¼
Beechcroft	4	...	
Brands Hatch Leis	172½	...	
Brit Allcroft	159½	...	
Charles Taylor	166½	+	1½
Corp Exec Search (3)	4¾	...	
Deep Sea Leis (160)	162½	...	
First Russian Frts C	610	...	
Geo Interactive Md	96	...	
Healthcare Reform	99½	...	
Jardinerie Ints (114)	122½	...	
John David Sports	298½	−	1½
Limelight	177½	−	5
Loftus Road (72)	70	+	½
Majestic Wines	210½	−	3½
Mears Group	11¼	...	
Mondas (75)	90½	...	
Oriental Restaurants	231½	...	
Provend	132½	...	
Scot Highland Htls	136½	...	

RIGHTS ISSUES

AG Holdings n/p	10½	...	
Bridport-Gundry n/p	1¼	...	
Capital Shop 625% n/p	2	−	½
European Leis n/p	13½	...	
Perkins Foods n/p (74)	2¾	−	¼
Springwood n/p	74½	−	2

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:
Vanguard .... 565p (+55p)
British Gas .... 228½p (+19½p)
Bluebird Toys .... 180p (+13½p)
Atkins WS .... 348½p (+26p)
Cropper James .... 378½p (+27p)
Greycoat .... 167p (+10p)
Jarvis Porter .... 212½p (+10p)
Southnews .... 447½p (+21p)
FI Group .... 473p (+20½p)
Micro Focus .... 825p (+32½p)
Farepak .... 390p (+15p)
Vosper Thorny .... 876p (+48½p)
Hambros .... 247½p (+12p)

FALLS:
Forward Group .... 132p (-149½p)
Adscene .... 159p (-17½p)
Thorn .... 313½p (-34p)
Huntleigh Tech .... 213p (-12p)

Closing Prices Page 35

TEMPUS

Coming out of its Shell?

THE risk for any large integrated oil company is that it turns into a low growth utility and Shell is no exception. Assets acquired and nurtured over decades are generating a flood of cash but oil and gas reserves are slowly being depleted. Shell needs to reinvest in new assets capable of generating better returns but few projects are big enough to make a difference and the oil company has been investing below budget.

Over the weekend, rumours surfaced that Shell was in talks with British Gas. But if Shell is looking for growth why then would it bid for a utility? Admittedly, the gas company has a few attractive upstream assets: the Morecambe Bay field for example and the Armada gas project in the North Sea, while BG's stake in the Karachaganak gas field in Kazakhstan has some speculative value. But the bulk of British Gas is Transco, the pipelines company. While Transco is on the examination table at the Monopolies and Mergers Commission, it remains a valuation minefield, but whatever the outcome it looks an unattractive prospect. The regulator is prepared to tolerate a pre-tax return of about 7 per cent for Transco, which hardly approaches Shell's target of a net return of 12 per cent over the cycle.

If the numbers make little sense on a cursory view, the greater risk for Shell would be the possible loss of its high share rating. Shell is the classic widows and orphans stock, offering reliable but unspectacular growth. Unused to the rough and tumble of a takeover bid, Shell is better off negotiating hard on "take-or-pay contracts" and picking upstream cherries as they fall from the troubled utility.

Thorn

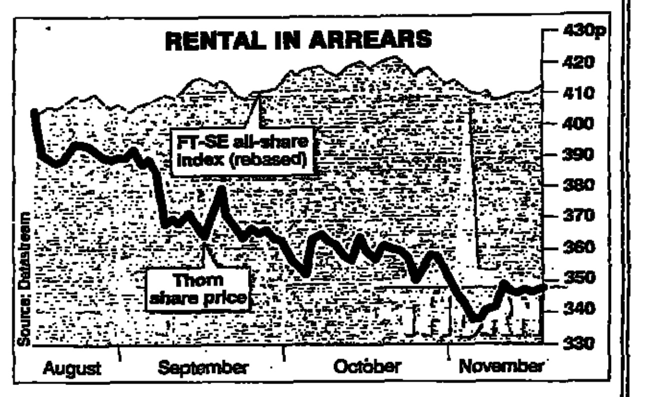
NO PUBLICITY is bad publicity, or so the saying goes — but Thorn is suffering in France over the closure of its first French Crazy George's rental store. Thorn's management, however, thinks that the closure after one day's trading will put its name in lights.

However, the French Government is objecting to the Crazy George's advertising amid accusations that impoverished customers would be trapped into paying inflated prices for goods.

If Thorn is to expand Crazy George's in France and across the Continent, it needs to do more than exploit sudden notoriety and must generate some positive goodwill. If potential customers think they are being asked to overpay under Crazy George's rent-to-buy schemes, then they will stay away.

This is unfortunate because France, with its economic problems, is one of Thorn's best potential markets. Thorn admits that the US is very competitive, hardly suprising given the buoyant state of its economy. Given Thorn's focus on customers who lack access to credit, falling unemployment rolls is not the best climate for Crazy George's.

Moreover, retailers on both sides of the Atlantic are offering more flexible credit arrangements, bringing a wider spectrum of customers into the credit net. That leaves just the very poor and very disadvantaged for Crazy George's to pursue.



600 Group

SHARES in the 600 Group took a tumble yesterday — though it was not immediately clear why. The company's products, which include computer controlled lathes, have been doing well but 600 Group reported quiet summer trading in the UK. Similar political and interest rate worries seem to be affecting several other markets. Yet 600 remains upbeat about its prospects, and the trading concerns seem too minor at present to explain a 6 per cent fall in the share price.

Arguably, makers of capital equipment, like 600 Group, should benefit from a Labour government. A strategy wedded to reinvestment in industry should include tax breaks in the form of increased capital allowances for plant, music to the ears of a company selling hi-tech metal turning equipment. The company is still reaping the benefit of its investment in new, higher margin products. A 5 per cent increase in first-half sales translated into a two-thirds rise in underlying profits to £5.1 million.

Perhaps surprisingly, 600 is broadly insulated from the rise of sterling, since it buys in roughly as many parts in yen as it sells completed machines in dollars. It still hopes to benefit from the long-awaited economic recovery in Japan and continental Europe.

The shares are now 50p off their summer high of 300p but still well above the 160p at which they began the year. Unless you share the company's generally positive assessments of the US and UK economies, you should wait for clearer news on trading before buying.

Toad

TOAD, the AIM-listed car security company, has received no reward for taking the dashboard technology on cars from analogue clocks to digital thief repellents. Its devices are, to borrow the words of its finance director, "real sexy James Bond stuff". An illuminated dashboard pinpoints your location, delivers your e-mail, and fills the car with lemon-flavoured smoke if anyone tries to break in. They are affordable, police-approved, and available in a national network of centres.

Yet the market has stubbornly refused to give Toad credit for its gadgetry. Without the blessing of volume carmakers, the technology remains a curiosity — James Bond stuff. Yesterday's deals with PHH and Ford suggest there is a market out there. Worth £4 million annually, the agreements are worth a third more than Toad's last annual sales. More deals are in the pipeline. If Chris Evans, the chairman, manages to woo the carmakers as he has wooed the biotech world, the shares could be due for a correction.

EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED

COMMODITIES

LIFFE

COCOA

Dec	681-680	Mar	992-990
Mar	914-913	May	999-998
May	931-929	Jul	1010-1008
Jul	946-944	Sep	1020-1019
Sep	963-961		
Dec	980-978		Volume: 6924

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Nov	1516-1511	Jul	1368-1365
Jan	1448-1446	Sep	1375-1370
Mar	1369-1366	Nov	1364-1350
May	1368-1365		Volume: 2359

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Oct	298.5-98.1
Spot: 297.0		Dec	301.0-99.7
Mar	302.9-02.5	Mar	303.0-01.5
May	305.6-07.1	May	304.0-03.6
Aug	303.6-05.8		Volume: 998

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on November 15

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	96.69	132.55	107.94
(+/-)	-2.90	-4.92	+3.05
Eng/Wales:	96.69	132.49	109.00
(+/-)	-2.90	-4.12	+3.93
(%)	+80.0	-1.0	+2.0
Scotland:	unq	132.91	107.51
(+/-)		-8.26	+4.29
(%)		-19.0	+13.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	22.90	-0.50
Brent 15 day (Jan)	23.05	-0.45
Brent 15 day (Feb)	22.60	-0.40
W Texas Intermediate (Jan)	23.75	-0.40
W Texas Intermediate (Feb)	23.50	-0.35

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Unld	226 (-6)	230 (-4)
Gasoil EEC	227 (-1)	229 (-2)
3.5 Fuel Oil	115 (n/c)	117 (n/c)
Naphtha	224 (-1)	226 (-1)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Dec	218.50-18.75	Mar	201.50-02.00
Jan	215.50-15.75	Apr	194.00-94.25
Feb	209.50-09.75		Vol. 11503

BRENT (6.00pm)

Jan	23.02-23.04	Apr	21.60 BID
Feb	22.62-22.64	May	21.10 BID
Mar	22.12-22.16		Vol. 15392

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)		BARLEY (close £/t)	
Nov	93.50	Nov	93.25
Jan	95.60	Jan	94.25
Mar	97.30	Mar	95.25
May	98.60	May	96.25
Jul	99.85	Sep	91.85
	Volume: 111		Volume: 19

POTATO (£/t)

	Open	Close
Mar	unq	58.5
Apr	67.0	65.5
May	unq	74.5
		Volume: 61

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/k)
Nov 81.00-81.50

BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Nov 96	1440	1430	1424
Dec 96	1355	1325	1350
Jan 97	1325	1298	1310
Apr 97	1340	1325	1329
Vol: 222 lots		Open interest: 3883	

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LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

(Official) (Volume prev day)	Cash	3mth	Rudolf Wolff Vol
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	2290.0-2291.0	2165.0-2167.0	305099
Lead ($/tonne)	706.00-706.50	716.50-717.00	177150
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1036.0-1036.5	1058.0-1059.0	344425
Tin ($/tonne)	6010.0-6020.0	6030.0-6030.0	30675
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1412.0-1413.0	1439.0-1439.5	1629050
Nickel ($/tonne)	6680.0-6685.0	6800.0-6802.0	68016

LIFFE OPTIONS

Series		Calls Jan	Apr	Jul	Puts Jan	Apr	Jul
Alld Dom	420	34	38	41½	6½	12	19
(*452½)	460	8½	16½	22	28	33	40
ASDA	110	11½	13½	16	1	3	4
(*119)	120	5	7½	10	4½	7	9
Boots	600	29	40	54½	8½	15	24
(*617)	650	8½	21	28	39½	41½	49
Br Airways	550	54½	68	76½	6½	11	17½
(*595)	600	22½	38½	46	21½	29	37
BP	650	41½	55	64	10½	21	27½
(*674½)	700	17½	31½	39	35½	44½	52
Br Steel	160	11	15½	19	4	5½	10
(*166½)	180	2½	6	9½	14½	16	21½
C & W	460	27½	42½	51½	8½	15	22
(*482½)	500	10	22	31	27½	34½	41½
CU	600	57½	67	68	4½	15	19½
(*643½)	650	20	32	40	20½	39½	43
ICI	750	35½	49	57	13½	31	39½
(*769½)	800	12	23	31½	40	59	64½
Land Sec	700	39½	46½	54½	6½	13	21½
(*726)	750	7½	19½	27	34	39	47½
M & S	460	29½	40½	45	4½	9½	14½
(*484)	500	9	19½	23	25½	28	32½
Nat West	650	45½	63½	71	5	10½	25½
(*681½)	700	23	32½	43	27½	41½	50
Safeway plc	360	13½	25	30	12½	14	25
(*366)	390	3½	12	17	42½	36	43
Sainsbury	360	15½	25	29	8	15	19½
(*366)	390	4½	11½	15½	27	30	37
Shell	950	61½	77½	84½	6½	22½	27
(*997½)	1000	29½	47	53½	23	41½	48½
Smkl Bch	750	31½	48½	62	19	32½	41
(*759)	800	11	26	39½	49½	60	66½
Storehse	300	0	—	—	0	—	—
(*276)	330	0	—	—	0	—	—
Trafalgar	50	0	—	—	0	—	—
(*40)	60	0	—	—	0	—	—
Zeneca	1600	105½	137	162½	16	58½	76
(*1690)	1700	55	94	111	45½	107½	124

Series		Nov	Jan	Apr	Nov	Jan	Apr
BAT Ind	420	17½	30	41½	1	8½	21
(*437)	460	0	11½	20½	23½	29½	44
Vodafone	240	3½	11½	19½	1½	10	19
(*242½)	260	0	4½	11	17½	22½	25½

Series		Nov	Feb	May	Nov	Feb	May
Grnd Met	460	10½	23½	32	0½	15½	21½
(*470)	500	0	7½	15½	30	42	46
Ladbroke	200	7	11½	16	1½	6½	11½
(*203½)	220	0	3½	7	19½	19	23½
Utd Bisc	200	5	13	18	1	6½	11
(*205)	220	0	5	9	15	19½	27½

November 18, 1996 Tot: 55012 Calls: 40734 Puts: 14670 FTSE Calls: 17134 Puts: 5497
*Underlying security price.

Series		Calls Jan	Apr	Jul	Puts Jan	Apr	Jul
BAA	460	27½	39½	47½	5½	14½	15½
(*477½)	500	7½	18½	26½	25½	31½	35
Thames W	550	37½	52½	60½	5½	14½	26½
(*577)	600	11½	25	34	28	30½	52½

Series		Nov	Feb	May	Nov	Feb	May
BTR	220	16½	25½	28½	0	3½	7½
(*236½)	240	1½	13	16	2½	10	16½
Br Aero	1100	42	76½	92½	0	19	31½
(*1141½)	1150	4½	46½	65½	12	40	53
Br Telecm	360	5½	16	23	1	13	18
(*364½)	390	0	5	11	25½	35½	37½
Cadbury	500	10½	25½	36	1	12	22
(*518)	550	0	7½	14½	40	42½	52½
Guinness	421	24½	34	42	0½	5	12½
(*444½)	460	0½	13	19½	17	23	32½
GEC	360	6	17½	26	1	10½	15
(*365)	390	0	6	12½	25	33	32
Hanson	110	6	9½	—	0	4	—
(*116)	119	0½	5	—	3½	9	—
LASMO	200	13½	21	24	0½	4	6
(*213½)	220	1	11	14	9½	12	15
LucasVarity	220	18	25½	31	0	4½	7½
(*238½)	240	1½	13½	19½	3	11½	15½
Pilkington	160	2½	10½	15	1	5½	9
(*162)	180	0	3	6½	18	19½	20
Prudential	400	5½	25	32½	2	16	25
(*405½)	420	0	9	15	36½	40½	50
Redland	390	19½	32½	39½	0½	7½	15½
(*409)	420	1	15	22	13	20½	31
R-Royce	240	6	18	21	1	9½	13½
(*246)	260	0	9	11½	15	27½	24½
Tesco	330	5	18½	25	1½	11	18½
(*352½)	360	0	6½	12	27½	30	36
Williams	330	9	—	—	0	—	—
(*336½)	360	0	—	—	21½	—	—

FTSE INDEX (*3962)

	3850	3900	3950	4000	4050	4100
Calls						
Dec	148½	101	66	36½	19½	8½
Jan	163	125	92	64½	41½	25½
Feb	192½	154½	122½	91	69	49
Mar	201½	167	135	107	81½	63½
Jun	—	221	—	164	—	113
Puts						
Dec	17½	26	44	69½	103	148
Jan	32½	44½	64	98	119	155
Feb	49	64	82½	105½	132	165
Mar	66½	81½	101½	124½	149½	192½
Jun	—	124	—	167½	—	217½

Series		Calls Dec	Apr	Jul	Puts Dec	Apr	Jul
Abby Nat	600	48½	63½	77½	2	16½	21½
(*643½)	650	14	33	42	17½	39	44½
Amstrad	160	10	—	—	5	—	—
(*164½)	180	2½	—	—	17	—	—
Barclays	950	31½	59½	72	19½	49	47½
(*969½)	1000	9	33½	49½	38½	67½	75
Natl Pwr	450	11	27	—	11½	19½	—
(*453½)	500	0½	9½	13	52	53½	60

Series		Jan	Apr	Jul	Jan	Apr	Jul
Glaxo W	950	35	55½	70½	25½	46	55
(*951)	1000	14½	33	49½	55½	75	84
HSBC	1250	51½	81½	107	25½	59	77½
(*1269)	1300	27½	57	83	51	87	104½
Reuter	700	42	60	72½	11	29½	32
(*724½)	750	16	34	47	34	59½	59½
Royal & Sun	394	35½	42½	—	3	13½	—
(*422½)	431	12	21	—	17	32	—

Series		Dec	Feb	May	Dec	Feb	May
Blue Circ	360	16½	24	30½	4½	8½	17
(*370)	390	2½	10	15½	21½	24	34

Series		Feb	May	Aug	Feb	May	Aug
Kingfishr	600	38	50½	56	16½	29	34
(*613)	650	15½	24½	33	44½	57	61½

Series		Dec	Mar	Jun	Dec	Mar	Jun
Unilever	1350	33½	64	75	11½	22	44
(*1369½)	1400	9½	37	48	39	47½	70

Series		Dec	Mar	Jun	Dec	Mar	Jun
Br Gas	220	11	19	23	4½	6½	13½
(*226½)	240	3	10	15	16	19½	25½
Dixons	550	20½	37	50	10	22	29½
(*557½)	600	3	16½	27	43	51	56½
EMI Group	1250	43	76	104	16	40½	51
(*1271)	1300	18½	51	77	40½	65½	75
Tarmac	80	9½	12½	14	0½	1½	2½
(*88½)	90	3	7	8	3½	5½	7
Hillsdwn	160	13	17½	19½	0½	3	7
(*171½)	180	1½	6½	9½	9	12	18
Lonrho	130	9	12	13½	1	5	6½
(*136½)	140	3	6½	9	5	10	11½
Sears	90	4	—	—	2	—	—
(*90)	100	1	—	—	10	—	—
Thorn EMI	1500	90	—	—	3½	—	—
(*1584)	1600	26	—	—	31	—	—
Tomkins	240	15½	21	26½	2½	9	9½
(*251½)	260	4½	11	16½	11	17	19½
Lloyds TSB	390	9	18	24½	6½	19	23
(*390½)	420	0½	6½	13	29½	39	43
Scot Pwr	325	12	30	—	4	12	—
(*329)	353	1½	7½	—	24	31	—

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
FTSE 100 Previous open interest: 62524	Dec 96	3984.0	3988.0	3965.0	3970.0	10345
	Mar 97	3987.5	3999.5	3987.5	3986.0	1370
FTSE 250 Previous open interest: 4191	Dec 96				4434.0	0
	Mar 97	4462.0	4478.0	4462.0	4470.0	1340
Three Month Sterling Previous open interest: 521962	Dec 96	93.52	93.55	93.52	93.55	9488
	Mar 97	93.24	93.30	93.23	93.29	13231
	Jun 97	92.92	92.97	92.91	92.96	8010
Three Mth Euro Yen	Mar 97	99.37	99.37	99.37	99.37	100
	Jun 97	99.22	99.22	99.22	99.22	100
Three Mth Euro DM Previous open interest: 1104765	Dec 96	96.80	96.80	96.79	96.80	6788
	Mar 97	96.80	96.82	96.80	96.81	12387
Long Gilt Previous open interest: 146901	Dec 96	109-29	110-23	109-27	110-14	60968
	Mar 97	109-16	109-31	109-16	109-24	2483
Japanese Govmt Bond	Dec 96	125.32	125.52	125.26	125.27	3597
	Mar 97	124.42	124.60	124.42	124.37	1263
German Gov Bd Bund Previous open interest: 285432	Dec 96	100.97	101.23	100.87	101.08	101200
	Mar 97	99.94	100.25	99.93	100.09	5044
Three month ECU Previous open interest: 28241	Dec 96	95.83	95.86	95.83	95.86	298
	Mar 97	95.85	95.87	95.85	95.86	462
Euro Swiss Franc Previous open interest: 92052	Dec 96	97.97	97.95	97.55	97.94	4708
	Mar 97	97.63	97.94	97.80	97.92	5796
Italian Govmt Bond Previous open interest: 107923	Dec 96	127.27	128.38	127.25	127.69	55543
	Mar 97	126.97	127.40	126.90	126.84	1066

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6 Finance Hse 6
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 5[illegible] Low 5½ Week fixed: 5[illegible]
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 6; 3 mth 6[illegible]. Sell: 2 mth 5[illegible]; 3 mth: 5[illegible].

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	[illegible]	6⅛-6	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Sterling Money Rates:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Interbank:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Overnight: open 5[illegible] close 5[illegible].					
Local Authority Deps:	6	n/a	6⅛	6¼	6[illegible]
Sterling CDs:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Dollar CDs:	5.29	n/a	5.38	5.42	5.58
Building Society CDs:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	5-4
Deutschemark:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
French Franc:	3¼-3⅛	[illegible]	[illegible]	3½-3⅜	[illegible]
Swiss Franc:	2-1¾	[illegible]	[illegible]	2¼-2	2-1
Yen:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	1-par

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $380.10-380.40 Close: $379.00-379.50 High: $380.10-380.40
Low: $378.00-378.50 AM: $379.70 PM: $379.10

Krugerrand: $378.50-381.50 (£226.25-228.25)

Platinum: $385.00 (£231.10) Silver: $4.90 (£2.925) Palladium: $118.75 (£71.30)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for Nov 18	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.8064-2.8205	2.8130-2.8163	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr
Brussels	51.570-51.870	51.667-51.791	15-11pr	45-38pr
Copenhagen	9.6070-9.6570	9.6324-9.6483	[illegible]pr	7-6pr
Dublin	0.9974-1.0002	0.9979-0.9994	5-1pr	19-13pr
Frankfurt	2.5026-2.5147	2.5098-2.5113	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr
Lisbon	252.78-254.35	253.67-253.90	[illegible]ds	[illegible]ds
Madrid	210.63-211.70	211.21-211.39	[illegible]ds	[illegible]ds
Milan	2516.0-2531.2	2525.5-2528.7	24-39ds	52-74ds
Montreal	2.2360-2.2425	2.2403-2.2425	0.58-0.53pr	0.129-0.120pr
New York	1.6622-1.6710	1.6710-1.6720	0.105-0.085pr	0.368-0.337pr
Oslo	10.570-10.595	10.580-10.589	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr
Paris	8.4570-8.5000	8.4807-8.4892	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr
Stockholm	10.990-11.061	11.027-11.049	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr
Tokyo	184.65-186.34	186.13-186.34	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr
Vienna	17.607-17.700	17.655-17.674	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr
Zurich	2.1197-2.1273	2.1197-2.1224	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr

Source: Extel Premium - pr. Discount - ds

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.2627-1.2635
Austria	10.58-10.59
Belgium (Com)	30.97-31.01
Canada	1.3406-1.3411
Denmark	5.7814-5.7834
France	5.0865-5.0885
Germany	1.5055-1.5060
Hong Kong	7.7315-7.7325
Ireland	1.6703-1.6718
Italy	1514.0-1516.0
Japan	111.50-111.55
Malaysia	2.5241-2.5248
Netherlands	1.6875-1.6880
Norway	6.3414-6.3451
Portugal	152.15-152.20
Singapore	1.3990-1.3997
Spain	126.68-126.71
Sweden	6.6090-6.6190
Switzerland	1.2693-1.2713

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.6704-1.6731
Australia dollar	2.1089-2.1114
Bahrain dinar	0.621-0.633
Brazil real*	1.7278-1.7323
China yuan	n/a
Cyprus pound	0.756-0.766
Finland markka	7.480-7.596
Greece drachma	392.0-399.0
Hong Kong dollar	12.9116-12.9210
India rupee	59.01-59.97
Indonesia rupiah	3853.0-3921.6
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4915-0.5015
Malaysia ringgit	4.2154-4.2188
New Zealand dollar	2.3548-2.3585
Pakistan rupee	66.20 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.995-6.119
Singapore dollar	2.3376-2.3398
S Africa rand (com)	7.718-7.830
U A E dirham	6.045-6.169

Barclays Bank GTS • Lloyds Bank

FTSE VOLUMES

3i	121	Lloyds TSB	5,700
ASDA Gp	11,000	LucasVarity	7,900
Abbey Ntl	726	Marks Spr	3,500
Allied Dom	1,500	NatWst Bk	933
Argos	92	Nat Grid	7,400
AB Foods	2,100	Nat Power	6,500
BAA	1,800	Next	537
BAT Inds	9,100	Orange	2,900
BOC	880	P & O	464
BP	4,700	Pearson	2,000
BSkyB	2,300	Pilkington	2,000
BTR	5,800	PowerGen	6,700
BT	10,300	Prudential	2,500
Bk of Scot	1,200	RMC	216
Barclays	1,800	RTZ	1,300
Bass	803	Railtrack	8,800
Blue Circle	1,700	Rank Group	1,000
Boots	2,500	Reckitt Col	937
BAe	2,900	Redland	5,400
BA	2,700	Reed Intl	1,401
Brit Gas	34,100	Rentokil	12,200
Brit Steel	5,700	Reuters	3,700
Burmah Cstl	335	Rolls Royce	4,200
Burton	5,700	Royal & Sun	2,800
Cable Wire	1,400	Royal Bk Scot	832
Cadbury	1,600	Safeway	1,400
Carlton Cms	1,000	Sainsbury	3,600
Cm Union	591	Schroders	89
Courtaulds	701	Scot & New	1,300
Dixons	284	Scot Power	2,400
EMI	837	Svrn Trent	1,900
Enterpr Oil	1,300	Shell Trans	3,300
GKN	1,500	Siebe	2,000
GRE	1,000	SmKl Bch	1,300
GUS	2,600	Smith Nph	262
Gen Acc	2,200	Smiths Inds	1,100
Gen Elec	7,800	Std Chartd	2,100
Glaxo Well	1,500	TI Gp	1,600
Granada	3,100	Tate & Lyle	326
Grand Met	5,400	Tesco	6,100
Guinness	3,100	Thames W	1,100
HSBC	1,400	Tomkins	7,400
Hanson	9,400	Unilever	477
ICI	968	Utd Utilities	2,600
Imp Tob	2,600	Utd News	63
Kingfisher	1,800	Vodafone	8,200
LASMO	2,500	Whitbread	764
Ladbroke	3,600	Wllms Hld	2,200
Land Secs	499	Wolseley	558
Legal & Gn	1,300	Zeneca	1,100

WALL STREET

	Nov 18 midday	Nov 15 close
AMP Inc	35⅞	36
AMR Corp	87⅞	89¼
ASA	39⅜	39¾
AT & T	37⅝	37⅜
Abbott Labs	52⅞	53⅞
Advanced Micro	24⅞	25½
Aetna Life	69⅝	69¾
Ahmanson (HF)	31¼	31½
Air Prod & Chem	68	68⅛
AirTouch Comm	26⅛	26⅝
Alberto-Culver B	49	49⅜
Albertson's	35⅝	35⅝
Alcan Alumnm	35⅛	35⅝
Alco Standard	50⅛	50¾
Allied Signal	71½	72⅛
Alum Co of Am	61¼	61½
Amax Gold Inc	5⅞	5⅞
Amerada Hess	56⅛	55⅝
Amer Brands	48⅝	49
Amer El Power	41¼	42
Amer Express	50⅛	50⅜
Amer Genl Corp	39⅛	39¾
Amer Home Pr	62⅞	63⅜
Amer Intl	109⅞	109¾
Amer Stores	40⅞	40⅝
Amer Standard	37⅛	37
Ameritech	55⅛	55½
Amoco	76⅛	75⅞
Anheuser-Busch	41½	41⅝
Apple Computer	24⅞	25
Archer Daniels	22⅛	22½
Armco	4⅞	4⅞
Armstrng Wrld	71½	71½
Asarco	26⅛	27⅝
Atl Richfield	132	131
Auto Data Pro	42⅛	42⅜
Avery Dennison	69⅞	69⅝
Avon Products	56⅛	56⅝
Baker Hughes	38	38⅝
Baltim Gas & El	27⅛	27⅛
Banc One	42½	42⅛
BankAmerica	94⅞	95⅛
Bank of NY	32⅛	32½
Bankers Tr NY	83⅝	84½
Barnett Banks	40⅞	41⅛
Bausch & Lomb	33⅝	33⅜
Baxter Intl	42½	42⅞
Bectn Dicknsn	40⅛	40
Bell Atlantic	60⅞	61⅛
Bell Industries	18⅛	18
BellSouth	39⅜	40
Black & Decker	34⅛	35
Block (H&R)	28⅛	28½
Boeing	94⅛	91⅛
Boise Cascade	29⅞	29⅝
Bristol Myrs Sq	109⅞	109⅛
Browning Ferris	26⅛	26½
Brunswick	25	25
Burlington Nthn	85⅞	86½
CMS Energy Corp	32⅞	32⅛
CNA Financial	102⅛	102½
CPC Intl	80⅞	80⅞
CSX	44⅛	44½
Campbell Soup	82⅛	82⅛
Can Pacific	26⅜	26⅜
Carolina Pwr	36⅛	36½
Caterpillar	74	73⅞
Central & SW	26⅛	27
Champion Intl	41⅞	41⅛
Chase Manhttn	88⅛	88⅛
Chevron Corp	65⅛	65½
Chrysler	32⅛	32⅛
Chubb Corp	53⅞	53
Cigna Corp	138⅛	137
Citicorp	108	104⅛
Clorox	108	107⅛
Coastal Corp	46⅛	46½
Coca Cola	52⅛	53
Coca Cola Ent	47⅛	49⅛
Colgate-Palmolive	95⅞	94⅛
Columbia Gas	61½	61⅛
ColumbiaHCA	38	37½
Compaq Comp	75⅛	76⅛
Comp Ass Intl	59⅛	59⅛
Conagra	52½	52⅛
Conrail	96⅛	97⅛
Cons Edison	29½	29⅛
Cons Nat Gas	55½	56⅛
Cooper Inds	41⅛	41⅛
Corestates	51⅜	51⅛
Corning Inc	39⅞	39⅛
Crown Cork	50⅞	50⅞
Dana Corp	31½	31½
Dayton Hudson	36½	36⅛
Deere	41½	41½
Delta Air Lines	77⅛	74⅛
Deluxe Corp	32⅛	32⅛
Digital Equip	37⅜	34⅛
Dillard Dept St	29⅞	29⅞
Disney (Walt)	71⅛	72⅛
Dominion Res	39⅞	40
Donelley (RR)	37⅛	33⅞
Dover Corp	52⅜	52⅞
Dow Chemical	84⅞	84⅛
Dow Jones	34½	34½
Dresser	32⅞	32⅜
Duke Power	47⅛	47⅛
Dun & Bradstreet	22⅛	22⅛
Du Pont	93⅞	92⅛
Eastman Chem	56⅛	56⅞

	Nov 18 midday	Nov 15 close
Eastman Kodak	83	83⅛
Eaton Corp	67	66⅞
Edison Int	19⅝	19⅝
Emerson Elec	99⅛	100⅜
Engelhard Corp	18⅝	19⅛
Enron Corp	45⅜	45⅛
Entergy	28⅛	28⅞
Ethyl Corp	8⅞	8⅞
Exxon	91⅛	90⅞
FMC Corp	76	76⅞
FPL Group	47⅜	47⅛
Federal Express	42⅛	41⅞
Fed Nat Mrge	38⅜	39⅜
First Bk Sys	68⅛	68⅜
First Union Rly	9⅛	9⅛
Fleet Finl Grp	51⅞	52⅜
Fluor Corp	69⅞	69⅞
Ford Motor	31½	31½
GTE Corp	44⅜	44⅛
Gannett	77⅞	78⅜
Gap Inc Del	30⅛	30⅞
Gencorp	17	16⅞
Gen Dynamics	72⅜	73
Gen Electric	103	104⅛
Gen Mills	60	60
Gen Motors	56⅜	55⅞
Gen Reinsurance	157⅞	156⅛
Gen Signal	41⅝	41⅜
Genuine Parts	44⅛	44⅛
Georgia Pac	70⅜	71⅛
Gillette	73⅞	74
Glaxo Wellc ADR	31⅛	31⅛
Goodrich (BF)	44⅛	44⅜
Goodyear Tire	49	49⅜
Grt Atl Pac Tea	32⅞	32⅜
Great Wstn Fin	28⅜	29⅜
Halliburton	60⅞	61⅛
Harcourt General	52	51⅝
Heinz (HJ)	37⅛	37⅛
Hercules	46	46⅛
Hershey Foods	50⅛	51
Hewlett Packard	50⅜	50⅜
Hilton Hotels	28⅛	28⅞
Home Depot	52⅞	53½
Homestake Mng	15⅜	15⅛
Honeywell	66⅛	65⅞
Household Intl	94⅜	94⅛
Houston Inds	23	23⅜
Humana	18⅛	19
ITT Corp	44⅛	45
Illinois Tool	79⅜	79⅜
Illinova	27⅛	27⅜
INCO	33⅞	34⅞
Ingersoll Rand	43	43⅛
Inland Steel	19⅛	19⅛
Intel Corp	114⅜	115⅞
IBM	143⅞	145
Intl Flav & Fr	44⅛	44⅛
Intl Paper	42⅛	42⅜
James River Va	30⅛	30⅞
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	50⅛	50⅞
Kellogg	68⅛	68⅞
Kerr-McGee	65⅜	65⅜
Kimberly-Clark	97⅞	97⅞
Kmart	9⅛	9⅛
Knight-Ridder	40⅞	40⅜
Lilly (Eli)	74⅞	74⅜
Limited Inc	17⅜	17⅛
Lincoln Nat	51⅞	51⅛
Litton	47⅞	47⅛
Liz Claiborne	42⅞	42⅞
Lockheed Martin	95⅛	93⅞
Louisiana Pac	21½	21½
MCI Comm	28½	28⅞
Marriott Int	55½	55½
Marsh & McLen	110⅜	110⅞
Masco Corp	34	33⅞
May Dept St	46⅛	46⅛
Maytag Corp	19	19
McDonalds	48⅛	48⅛
McDonnell D	52	50⅛
McGraw Hill	46⅜	46⅛
Mead Corp	57⅛	58
Medtronic	68⅜	69⅞
Mellon Bk	65	65½
Melville Corp	41½	40⅞
Merck Inc	80⅜	82
Merrill Lynch	76½	78⅛
Microsoft	149⅞	149
Minnesota Mine	81⅛	81⅛
Mobil Corp	119⅛	119⅛
Monsanto	39⅜	39⅜
Morgan (JP)	88⅛	88⅞
Motorola Inc	53⅞	53⅞
Natl Semd	22⅞	22⅞
Natl Service Ind	34⅛	34
Navistar Int	9⅛	9⅛
NY Times A	37⅛	37⅜
Newmont Mng	49⅜	49⅛
Niag Mohawk	8⅛	8⅛
Nike B	56⅞	55⅞
NL Industries	9⅜	8⅛
Noram Energy	15⅜	15⅜
Nordstrom	41	41⅛
Norfolk Sthrn	89	89⅛
Nthn State Pwr	48⅜	48⅜
Norwest Corp	43⅞	45⅜
Nynex Corp	45	45⅛
Occidental Pet	24⅜	24⅞
Ohio Edison	21½	21½

	Nov 18 midday	Nov 15 close
Oracle	45⅛	47
Oryx Energy Co	23⅜	20⅛
Overseas Ship	17	17
Owens Corning	39⅛	39⅛
PHH Corp	44⅛	45⅛
PPG Industries	58⅜	58⅜
PNC Bank	37⅜	37⅛
PP&L Res	24⅛	24⅛
Paccar Inc	59⅞	59
Pacificorp	21½	21½
Pac Enterprises	29⅞	30
Pac Gas & Elect	23⅞	23⅜
Pac Telesis	34½	34½
Pall Corp	26⅞	27⅛
Parker Hannifin	39⅜	40
Peco Energy	26	26½
Penney (JC)	50⅞	51½
Pennzoil	53⅛	52⅞
Pepsico	31½	32⅜
Pfizer	88⅞	89⅜
Pharm & Upjhn	37⅜	37⅛
Phelps Dodge	67⅛	67
Philip Morris	101½	101½
Phillips Pet	42⅛	42⅛
Pitney Bowes	57½	57½
Polaroid	41½	41⅛
PriceCostco	20⅞	20⅞
Procter & Gmbl	107	107⅛
Providian	50⅞	50⅞
Pub Serv E & G	28⅛	28⅞
Quaker Oats	37⅝	37⅛
Ralston Purina	76½	76⅛
Raychem Corp	79⅜	80⅛
Raytheon	51	51⅛
Reebok Intl	38⅛	38⅞
Reynolds Metals	58⅜	59⅛
Rockwell Intl	61⅞	61⅛
Rohm & Haas	79	79⅜
Royal Dutch	170⅛	167⅛
Rubbermaid	23⅜	23⅛
SBC Comms	49⅞	49
Safeco Corp	38⅜	38⅞
St Paul's Cos	56	55⅝
Salomon Inc	47⅛	46⅛
Sara Lee Corp	39⅞	40
Schering Plough	69⅞	70⅛
Schlumberger	101½	102⅛
Seagram	38⅛	38⅛
Sears Roebuck	48	48
Shell Trans	99⅞	98⅛
Sherwin Wllms	55⅛	55⅞
Skyline Corp	27⅜	27⅜
Snap-On-Tools	34½	35
Southern Co	22⅛	22½
Sprint Corp	41½	41½
Stanley Works	28⅛	29
Sun Company	23⅛	23⅜
Sun Microsys	58⅜	58⅜
Suntrust	47⅞	47⅜
Supervalu	30⅛	30⅛
Sysco Corp	34⅛	35
TRW Inc	95⅛	95⅛
TCC Inds	1⅝	1⅝
Tandem Comp	13⅜	13⅛
Tandy Corp	41	40⅞
Temple Inland	51½	52⅜
Tenneco	49⅞	50
Texaco	99⅛	101½
Texas Inst	54⅛	55⅞
Texas Utilities	41½	41⅛
Textron	91½	91½
Time Warner	40⅞	40⅞
Times-Mirror A	49⅜	50
Timken	44⅛	45
Torchmark	50⅜	50⅞
Toys R Us	35⅛	35
Transamerica	79⅛	79
Travelers	60	60⅞
Tribune	86⅛	87⅛
Tyco Int	53⅞	53⅞
UST Inc	31½	31½
UAL	55⅛	50⅞
US Inds	29⅞	30
US West Comm	30⅛	30⅞
USX Marathon	22⅞	22⅛
Unicom	26⅛	27
Unilever NV	167⅜	166⅛
Union Camp	49	49⅜
Union Carbide	45⅛	45⅛
Union Pacific	56⅛	57⅛
Unisys Corp	6⅛	6⅛
USAir Group	21⅛	20⅞
USF&G Corp	19⅜	19⅜
US Life	30	30
United Tech	131½	132
Unocal Corp	40⅛	39⅜
VF Corp	67⅛	68
WMX Tech	33½	33⅛
Wal-Mart Stores	24⅜	24⅜
Warner-Lambert	71½	72⅜
Wells Fargo	274⅛	273½
Westinghouse El	18⅜	18⅜
Weyerhaeuser	45⅛	46⅜
Whirlpool	46⅞	46⅜
Whitman	23⅛	23⅜
Winn Dixie	33⅛	34⅛
Woolworth	24⅛	24⅜
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	58⅛	59
Xerox	47	47⅛
Yellow Corp	16	16⅛

THE TIMES

CITY DIARY

Waigel misses out on Telekom

THEO WAIGEL, the German Finance Minister, turned up ten minutes too late for the investor party of the year. He missed yesterday's news conference for the high-profile listing of Deutsche Telekom, explaining that "Frankfurt traffic was not a problem. It was fog in south Germany which made me late". Asked later whether he had joined millions of Germans in snapping up stock in the state-owned firm, he said: "As an insider, I couldn't buy Telekom shares. But, if I wasn't Finance Minister, I definitely would have bought them."

Clarke and chips

THE Chancellor was lining his stomach at The Greenhouse yesterday, a week before the Budget. Ensconced alongside his PPS, the Chancellor tucked into a lunch of deep-fried *foie gras*, followed by chicken, washed down with white wine. He was, however, caught looking longingly at a fellow diner's side order of chips. "I thought Monday was a little bit too early for chips," he whimpered. Roll on next Tuesday.

"Would we accept Zola in settlement of Chelsea's £1m unpaid tax bill"

Budget bets

MEANWHILE, City Index is waxing over more mundane matters. Now that the spread betting specialist's merger with Sporting Index has fallen through, Jonathan Sparke, City Index's managing director has turned his attention to the Budget. City Index is quoting a price for how long the Chancellor will speak and how many slugs of whisky he will take. Sparke is also going to quote on how long it is before Ken utters the words "betting tax".

Worldly Blair

HARRODS BANK'S latest newsletter, makes an interesting reference to Tony Blair and beauty contests. Hidden in an interview with Andrew Logan, a client at Harrods Bank and mastermind of the *Alternative Miss World* film, is a little known fact about Blair. As a barrister, Blair successfully defended the makers of the film, after the organisers of the original competition objected to the use of "Miss World" in the title. Thanks to Blair, Lord Denning judged that no one could confuse the two events. "He hasn't got demon eyes," Logan protests, "they're lovely."

Berkeley backers

SO, WHO is behind Berkeley Playhouse? Stand up Colin Emson, chairman of Robert Fraser Asset Management, another would-be hipster behind the project to finance London's eagerly awaited "table dancing" club. As a part-time finance director in the Berkeley Playhouse, the pukka financier will initially have a 5.38 per cent stake, though this could soar on the upmarket strip joint's success. John Bottomley, another senior executive from Robert Fraser, is also a non-executive director and company secretary at the Playhouse.

MORAG PRESTON

Bill without a cause places strike laws on the agenda

Summer disputes prompted today's consultation paper, says

Philip Bassett

When Ian Lang, the President of the Board of Trade, today announces his new proposals for curbing strikes in British industry, he will do so in the awkward knowledge that the stoppages which have prompted them — in the Post Office, on the railways, on the London Underground — are all settled: a Bill without a cause.

Yet that will not deter the Government from pressing ahead with plans for new laws on strikes. Behind in the polls, it believes that the strikes over the summer brought employee relations, and especially strikes, back on to the public, and so the electoral, agenda — and ministers are determined to seize the moment if they can.

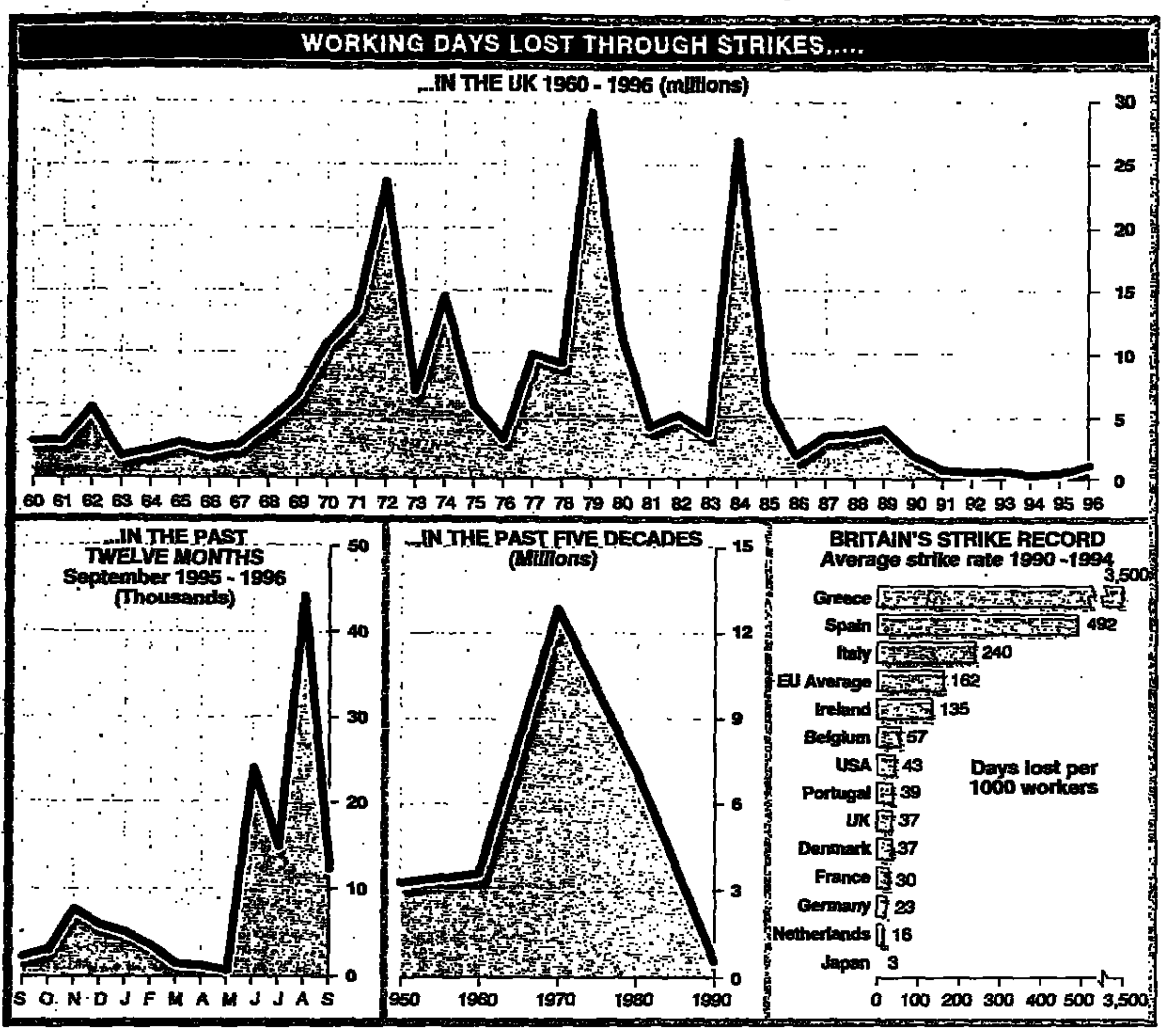
The flurry of industrial disputes over the summer certainly altered Britain's strike story. As the graphics show, in the 1950s and 1960s, strike activity was relatively low, despite being seen as the era of "I'm all right, Jack": an average of about 3.5 million working days were lost through strikes each year.

The 1970s saw an explosion in strike activity, with key strikes by miners, car workers and public service employees. Although the vast majority of people never went on strike, such big disputes pushed up the annual average in the 1970s to some 12.8 million working days lost. The winter of discontent that ushered in the Conservative Government, big strikes in the steel, civil service and water sectors, culminating in the 1984-85 miners' strike, helped to keep strike activity at a high level in the 1980s, with an average of 7.2 million days lost.

This summer's strikes, coupled with strikes over working time in the engineering industry in 1990, have pushed the 1990s average close to 1980s levels — even though before this summer, ministers have correctly been able to claim that strike activity in Britain has been at its lowest level since strike records began more than a century ago.

But the return of strikes this summer cast doubt over what is widely considered as probably the most unequivocal success of the Conservatives since coming into office in 1979 on the crest of a wave of anti-union feeling: the reform of employee relations in Britain, and especially of the UK's trade unions. In a sense, ministers felt the strikes signalled unfinished business: tough competitive realities, and the advent of inward investors such as Nissan and Toyota, had helped to render strikes all but defunct in the private sector, and a combination of privatisation and hard-learnt defeats had scaled them back heavily in the public sector.

But in what ministers came to identify as so-called monopoly public services, such as the Royal Mail and on the railways, where union membership was high and union power still strong, employees could still wield industrial leverage through strikes. With people walking to work and mail not being delivered, and with an election in prospect and the Government's most signal achievement under threat, ministers were determined to act.



Today's move by Mr Lang, publishing a new set of proposals to deal with strikes in a consultative paper is the result. Proclaiming at once both a "revolution in British industrial relations", and the fact that "some problems remain", Mr Lang, in his introduction to a draft version of the document, said: "The Government believes there is now widespread recognition that the right to call strikes should be constrained within reasonable limits. Trade unions and their members pursuing a particular dispute must take account fo the broader interests of the community."

Statistically, the Government helps to make its case today by showing in the consultative paper that in the past four years, strikes in the public sector — education, health and administration — and the utilities, such as gas, electricity, water, post, telecommunications and railways, have formed 60-80 per cent of the total number of working days lost through strikes — far higher than at any point since the early 1970s.

The draft document accepts the economic drive behind this: "The current upturn in strikes is probably prompted in part by economic growth, and the continuing fall in unemployment. The perception that their employers' businesses are doing better, and that there is no readily available supply of replacement labour is likely to increase workers' willingness to strike."

What ministers have to do today is reach a delicate balance: at once to say that the framework of industrial relations law which their Government has introduced is working well, and yet at the same time insist that there is real need for further action.

John Monks, the TUC's General Secretary, says that he doesn't detect great employer enthusiasm for further legislation, and privately, many employers agree: they do not see further legal reform of employee relations as a pressing competitiveness issue. Nevertheless, Mr Lang will set out today a range of measures, including extending from seven to 14 days the notice required of industrial action after a ballot, pushing up the ballot threshold from a majority of those voting to a majority of those entitled to vote, and reballoting on strikes every three months after the start of industrial action.

The consultative paper will make it clear that the Government has considered a further range of options, including compulsory arbitration in disputes, a legal requirement to co-operate with Acas, the conciliation service, new powers to ban specific strikes or strikes in certain sectors of the economy. But these have all been rejected.

Instead, the Government will propose removing legal immunity from strikes which have "disproportionate or excessive effects", citing as examples strikes which pose risks to life, health or safety; strikes which threaten national security or serious damage to property or to the economy; and strikes which will mean "significant disruption of everyday life or activities in the whole or part of the country." The Government's intention is to put the decision of what constitutes an essential service to the judgment of the courts.

The courts should take account, according to the Government, of the intensity, frequency and duration of the industrial action after a case had been brought before them, either by an employer or by anyone affected, whether the action concerned affected a monopoly or a service in which, for the timescale of the strike, there was no adequate alternative or substitute.

The consultative paper says: "These legal criteria would allow a judgment to be made as to whether in a particular instance industrial action had, or was likely to have, unacceptable effects. It would be clear in most circumstances whether or not the effects of industrial action were likely to be disproportionate or excessive." Employment lawyers are sceptical about the value, or even the possibility of applying, this notion of proportionality, while unions and business are fearful that its vagueness may simply lead to fat fees for lawyers, with little practical effect.

In one sense, today's move will be shadow boxing — partly because the strikes which inspired it are over, but mainly because the law that the consultative paper will preface will not surface, at least this side of an election. That doesn't make it irrelevant: in 1992, the Government mounted a similar pre-election exercise, including requirements for all pre-strike ballots to be postal. It subsequently became law.

If the Conservatives win the general election, today's consultative paper will signal further union reforms. If they do not, Labour has its own proposals for new employment law. Either way, unions, strikes and employee relations are firmly back on the business and political agenda — and today's government move will fire the starting gun for them as an issue in the election.

JANET BUSH

Stick with the hair shirt, Ken

Conservatives must be hoping, sneakily, that Kenneth Clarke packs away his hair shirt and slips on his glad rags next Tuesday, given yesterday's stunning public borrowing figures. With an election looming, and Labour apparently drawing away again in the polls, news of bumper tax receipts in October must tempt some to think that the Budget can be a generous, potentially vote-winning affair after all.

All such notions should be stamped on resolutely. News of a £4.4 billion repayment of borrowing last month, more than twice what the City had been expecting, is a strong argument *against* cutting taxes for it is yet further evidence of the economy's strength. Coupled with last week's surge in annual inflation rates and another very large fall in unemployment, the last thing this economy needs is a fiscal boost.

The October repayment of borrowing was partly because of strong corporation tax receipts and that, to an extent, reflects healthy profits last year. But there was also a rebound in receipts of VAT and excise duties, benefiting from this year's strengthening consumer demand. Early last month, the consensus forecast was that the public sector borrowing requirement in the full year would total £28 billion, once again overshooting the Treasury's £26.9 billion. Now the Government is expected to meet its projection and perhaps even undershoot it.

This is undoubtedly good news, particularly after last year's worries when tax revenues inexplicably failed to match expectations. But it is still no reason for wantonness. One only needs to look as far back as Nigel Lawson's chancellorship to know the disasters that can follow on tax cuts to win elections when the economy is already growing perfectly well on its own. Mr Clarke is already being told by the Bank of England that he will not hit his inflation target without higher interest rates. Net tax cuts next week would simply make the Bank and the markets even more aggressive.

If Mr Clarke were to be tempted into a net tax giveaway of any size, then he really will have to think in terms of raising interest rates again — and probably again. With chartered surveyors now talking about panic-buying lifting house prices markedly in some parts of the country, it may be that the housing market is robust enough to take higher mortgage rates but the pyschological impact on voters would not be pretty.

The Chancellor will also be aware of last week's MORI poll in *The Times*, which thoroughly vindicated his view that the electorate would be cynical about tax cuts just before an election, having borne the huge tax rises that the Government promised, during the last election campaign, would never happen.

The poll showed that a majority of the public, including Tory supporters and the better-off, believe that the Chancellor should not cut the basic rate of income tax. He would be better off pleasing the financial markets with a tight package that recouped some of the slippage on the public finances last year, and concentrating on relatively cheap but clever measures designed specifically to steal Labour's thunder.

After all, it should not be forgotten that, even after yesterday's figures, the PSBR is nowhere near as low as the Government had envisaged. In November 1994, the Treasury was projecting a PSBR this year of £13 billion. By last year's Budget, that figure had risen to £22.5 billion. In the Summer Forecast, the estimate was raised again to £26.9 billion. Even if borrowing now undershoots — and it still may not — this would only represent a modest clawing back of ground lost. Moreover, if all was right with the British economic universe, surely the Government should be nearer to its aim of "balance in the medium term" after five uninterrupted years of growth.

In the end, the debate about the contents of next week's Budget package is marginal in terms of economic impact. A 1p cut in the basic rate costs about £1.3 billion. That is about half of the City's forecasting error for yesterday's public borrowing figures.

Philip Bassett on a project for the future

The Post Office looks to Genesis for its 21st century technology

Britain's Post Office, beset by industrial disputes and a long-running argument about its ownership as well as new communication methods such as e-mail and faxes, will today unveil a project aimed at shifting its markets into the 21st century.

In the unlikely setting of a warehouse in Swindon, Post Office leaders will reveal the Genesis project, which will attempt to bring together available and likely technologies from different suppliers. The Post Office regards the project as the most ambitious it has undertaken.

In many industrial sectors in Britain, the supply chain has been markedly improved — often by an external event, such as the arrival into a long-established industry of an inward investor. Nissan, the Japanese motor manufacturer, for example, says that when it first set up in the UK in the mid-1980s, it used to reject 2,000 parts per million from its first 200 supplying firms. Now, the company says, its rejection rate from its top 50 suppliers is down to 10 parts per million — equal to the best rates in Japan.

While competition can stimulate development and improve quality, some companies recognise, too, that it can hold it back, as supply firms strive to maintain a competitive edge by keeping their own developments secret.

The Post Office will, in the Genesis project, try a different route — one that is collaborative, inclusive, co-operative. In the Wiltshire warehouse, Post

The rural office could be further threatened by changes

Office leaders have drawn together 22 of the world's leading information technology companies.

Companies such as Microsoft, IBM, BT, Compaq, AT&T, Hewlett-Packard and Bull are casting aside old, traditional rivalries to work together for the Post Office, to create new models for business information systems.

Post Office leaders believe that by bringing together competing companies, swapping ideas, innovations and technologies, they can push forward change more quickly than they would be able to do through normal relationships with individual firms. In the face of growing computer-based communications, the Post Office, like postal services worldwide, seems inextricably linked with physical communications — letters, parcels, what the users of systems such as the Internet sneeringly dismiss as "snail mail".

John Roberts, the Post Office's chief executive, says: "We want to make technology the future life blood of the Post Office. Genesis will be the biggest single systems integration of company information and systems any business in Europe has ever undertaken. Nobody in British industry has tackled culture change by bringing so many suppliers together to collaborate on something like this."

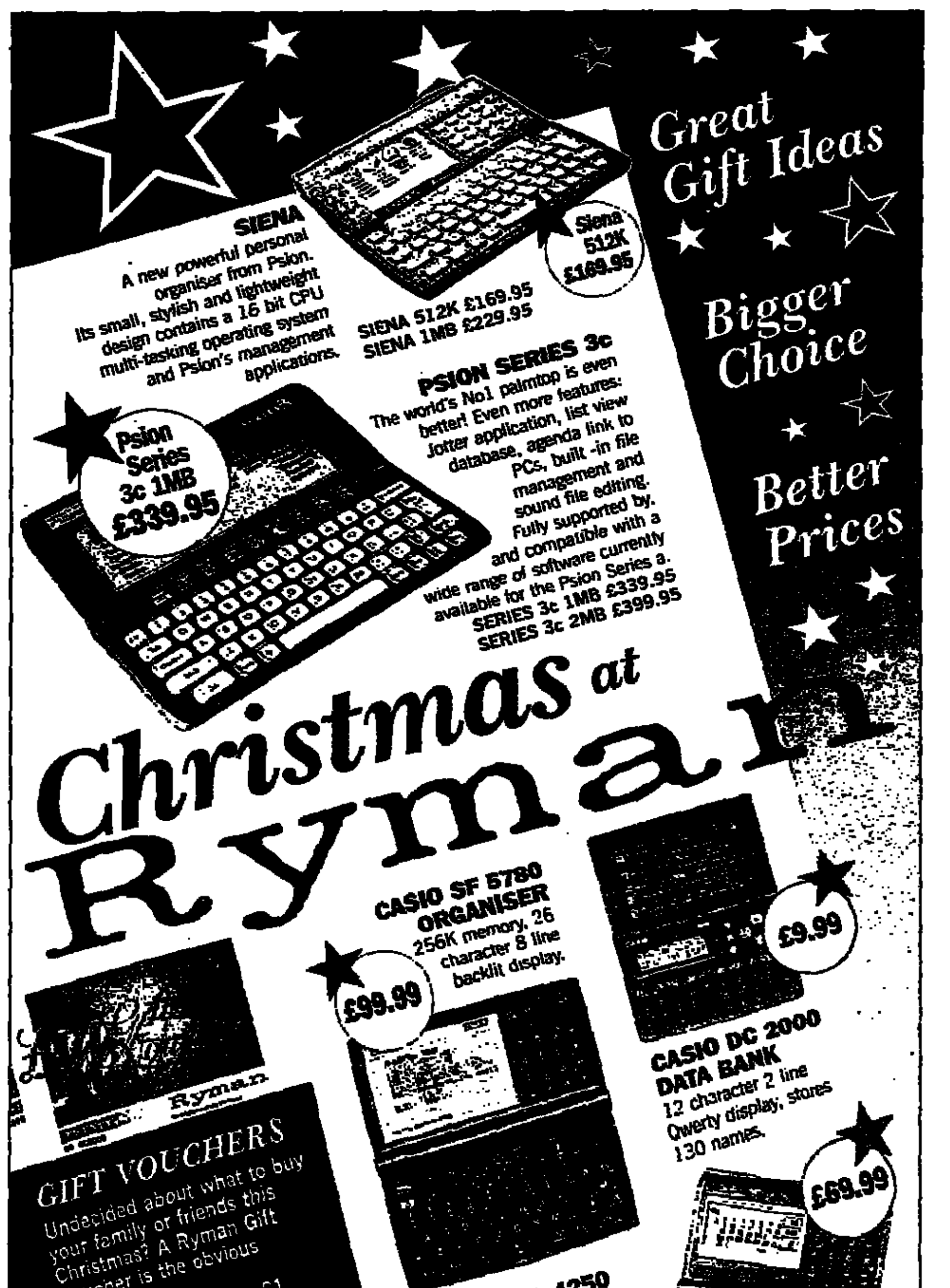
The Genesis demonstration, put together for the relatively low cost of £2 million, will try to show what a post office of the future could look like including:

☐ Interactive access to many Post Office services through domestic TV sets, telephones, PCs and the Internet — including stamp issues, timed collection and delivery services, including Datapost and registered mail. It could even offer a hybrid form of E-mail, in which letters would be transmitted electronically to Royal Mail, which would then print and envelope them and send them straight to addresses.

☐ New electronically based products, including the computer-based ordering of goods, bill payments and distribution of computer-generated messages and letters. The plan envisages home shopping, under which customers could order a range of products by telephone, the Internet or other means, and the Post Office then delivering them.

☐ State-of-the-art cash acceptance systems and retail kiosks, including foreign currency exchange, allowing customers to pay for currency electronically, and then collecting it at a post office.

About 250 senior Post Office managers will be trained in the Genesis system over the coming weeks.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Car exports boost Japanese trade surplus with US

FROM ROBERT WHYMANT IN TOKYO

JAPAN'S politically sensitive trade surplus with the United States surged in October, possibly signalling a reversal of the downward trend as Japanese manufacturers and carmakers, in particular, benefited from the weaker yen to boost overseas sales.

The surplus with America rose 31.3 per cent. from a year earlier, to 354.8 billion yen (£1.92 billion), helped by a 44.4 per cent rise in car shipments. This was the first expansion in 20 months, and prompted concern about a fresh outbreak of trade friction between Tokyo and Washington, after a period of relative calm.

As the trade figures were released yesterday, Andrew Card, president of the American Automobile Manufacturers Association, criticised Japan's official policy of driving the yen down against the dollar to boost the economy. Speaking in Tokyo, Mr Card argued that the weak yen (trading yesterday at about 111 yen to the dollar) "eats into progress on the trade front", and expressed a view that "the yen-dollar relationship should be 100 yen to the dollar".

Market-players speculated that pressure from American business leaders might lead the US Government to push down the value of the dollar against the yen in an attempt to redress the trade imbalance. It was the contentious trade gap with America that led to fierce trade rows in the past and made the yen shoot up in the first place.

Japan's overall trade surplus continued to shrink for the 23rd consecutive month, falling 12.9 per cent in October, from a year earlier, to 470.86 billion yen. Economists said the decline in October by strong export growth was mainly because of a 41.6 per cent increase in Japan's oil import bill and predicted a rising global surplus soon.

Yasushi Okuda, a finance ministry official, said the rise in car exports was a reaction to the much lower level prevailing until the spring because of the strong yen. "As overall export prices of Japanese products have been decreasing, we will see a reasonable year-on-year increase," he said.

Economists said that the pace of reimports of goods made in Japan's offshore factories, which had boosted import figures, was slowing due to higher import costs.

Mr Card said: "The Japanese automakers are slashing reimports from their North American plants and maybe reconsidering their resolve to source more parts from the US."

Forward Group hit by warning

BY MARTIN BARROW

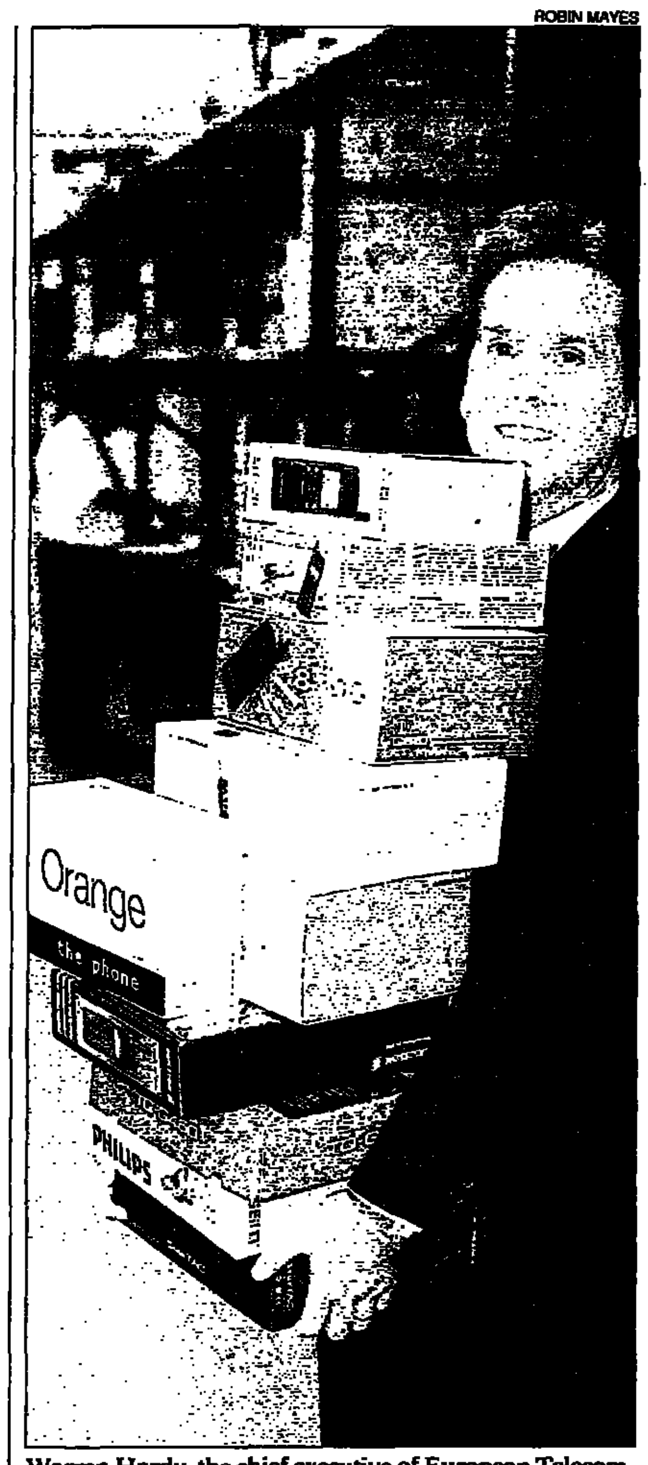
FORWARD GROUP'S stock market value fell by almost £80 million yesterday after the supplier of electronic components revealed that second-half profits would fall substantially below market expectations.

The company yesterday reported a rise in pre-tax profits to £6.2 million, from £2 million, in the six months to July 31. But Ray Chamberlain, executive chairman, said that there had been a deterioration in trading conditions since the end of the half-year, wiping out second-half profits.

Although no key customers have been lost, many have rescheduled requirements as a result of overstocking, causing a marked reduction in production volumes and profits, Mr Chamberlain said.

The company is increasing the interim dividend to 1p a share, from 0.8p, payable from earnings that rose to 7.5p a share, from 3.6p, in the first half.

But the shares fell to 137½p, from 281½p, setting a new low for the year. Mr Chamberlain, who speaks for 12 per cent of the shares, suffered a paper loss of £2.37 million.


ROBIN MAYES

Warren Hardy, the chief executive of European Telecom, the mobile phone distributor, reported doubled pre-tax profits, to £1.53 million, in the half year to September 30. Group earnings advanced 60 per cent, to 4.1p per share.

Wise Speke placing assumes £15m value

BY JON ASHWORTH

WISE SPEKE, the northern stockbroking and fund management group, is coming to the market through a placing that is expected to value the company at about £15 million.

Shares for employees will be one of the spin-offs of the deal that accompanies streamlining by its parent, Ockham Holdings, which is reducing its stake from 100 per cent to 60 per cent. In addition, a placing of new shares is expected to raise at least £3 million, net of expenses. The placing, aimed at institutions and private investors, will be fully underwritten by Beeson Gregory, the issue's sponsor and adviser.

Dealings are expected to begin later this month. Nigel Sherlock, chief executive, said employees would be offered various incentives, including save-as-you-earn schemes and share options. Directors would be offered "quite modest" parcels of shares.

Discretionary fund management, corporate finance and financial planning are among the areas targeted for expansion. Wise Speke expects to make a pre-tax profit of £2.25 million in the year to December 31, including £0.65 million in respect of discontinued operations. The firm has 251 employees and manages £2.1 billion on behalf of more than 19,000 clients.

Ockham has made steady progress since metamorphosing out of Sturge, the former Lloyd's managing agent. The company has announced its withdrawal from aviation and non-marine underwriting, and intends to increase investment in motor insurance, where rates are turning up.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Jarvis Porter expects better second half

JARVIS PORTER, the supplier of labels, packaging and promotional products, encountered mixed trading conditions in the first six months of the year but said that the second half has started more strongly. Paul Jarvis, the chairman, said the benefits of restructuring would start to flow through in the next financial year.

Yesterday the company reported a fall in pre-tax profits to £5.1 million, from £7.3 million, in the half year to August 31. There was a £1 million charge for reorganisation costs. Earnings fell to 7.1p a share, from 10.2p, but the interim dividend is lifted to 2.35p a share, from 2.15p. At one point yesterday the shares rose 10p, to 212½p. The company said that the outcome for the second half would depend on maintaining the same level of demand for its spirits labels as that seen in the past two months, and on a continuation of the stronger growth in demand from electronics customers.

WS Atkins in charge

WS ATKINS, the engineering consultancy that floated on the stock market in July, has been appointed project management consultant to the first phase of the £1.7 billion LG Electronics industrial development in South Wales. Phase one involves the development of facilities to manufacture electronic components, including parts for televisions and computer monitors. LG's investment in Newport will create up to 6,100 jobs, and WS Atkins shares rose 17p to 339½p.

Kvaerner sells retail site

KVAERNER, the shipbuilding and engineering group, is raising £18.85 million with the sale of the Liberty 2 shopping centre at Romford, Essex, the only major retail investment held by Trafalgar House Property, now a Kvaerner subsidiary. The buyer is Grosvenor Asset Management. The 85,000 sq ft centre was developed by Trafalgar House in 1989, but, by 1994, had achieved occupancy of just 50 per cent. A marketing campaign over the past two years has achieved virtually full occupancy. Rental income is about £1.7 million.

London Industrial ahead

LONDON INDUSTRIAL, the specialised provider of workspace to small businesses, achieved a 26.4 per cent rise in pre-tax profits, to £2.3 million, in the six months to September 30. Earnings were 23 per cent higher, at 11.4p a share. The interim dividend is increased 12.5 per cent, to 4.5p a share, payable on February 3. Net asset value increased to 351p a share, from 344p. The annual rent reached £13.4 million, up 6.3 per cent since the end of March.

Newly qualified chartered, incorporated engineers and technicians

Chartered Engineers

The Engineering Council announces that the following, in membership of the appropriate engineering institution, have qualified as Chartered Engineers entitling them to use the designatory letters C Eng after their names:

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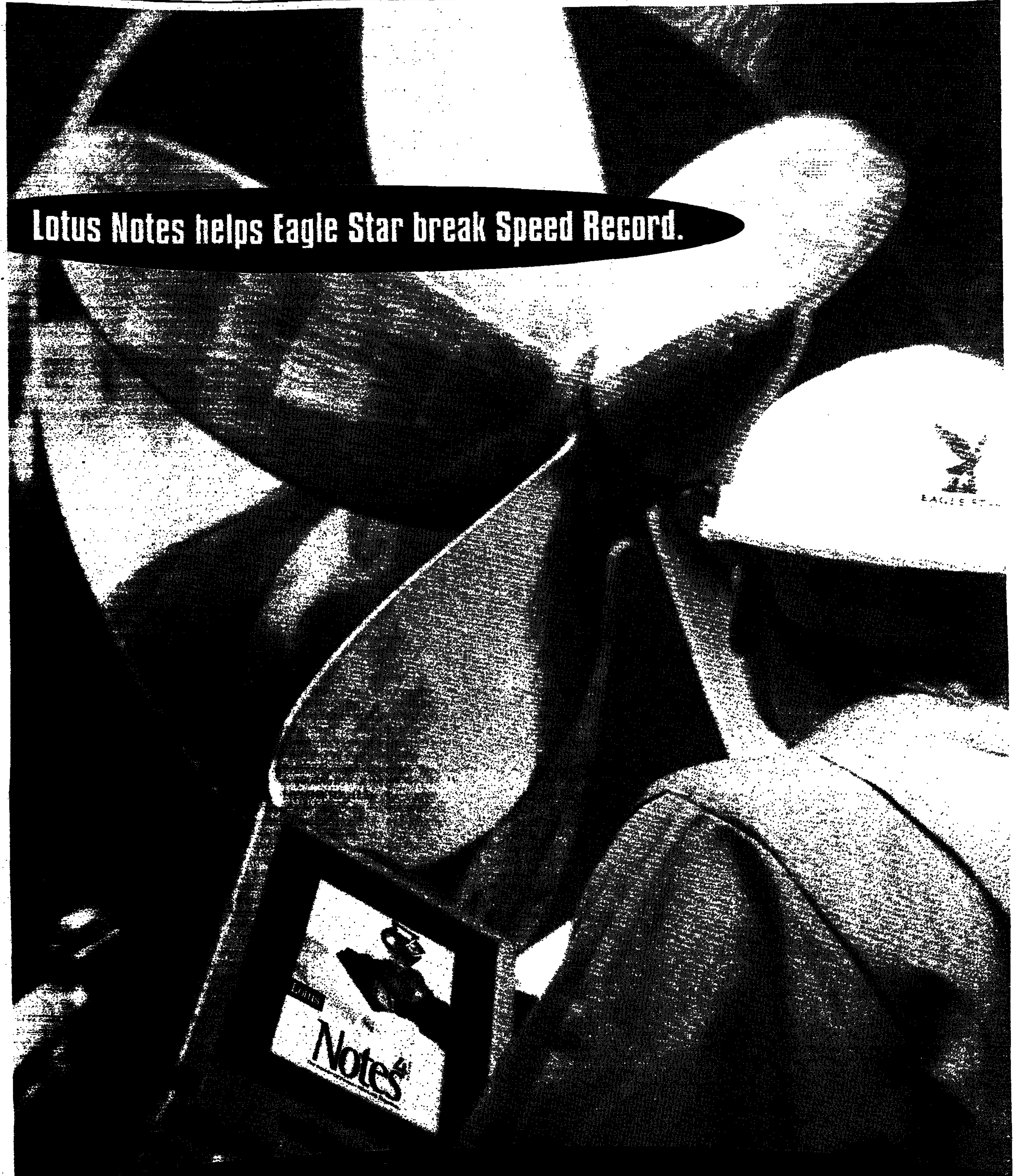

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Japan	105.90	114.30	- 0.30	
Managed Inc	48.01	51.07i	- 0.03	4.70
Mastertrust	167.00	178.60	+ 0.50	1.02
US Emerging Cos	204.20	217.20	- 1.20	
Ethical	82.04	87.28	- 0.13	2.49
International	134.40	143.40	- 0.30	0.38
Dividend & Growth	68.92	73.32	- 0.39	4.19
Global Gwth & Sec	73.77	78.79	- 0.02	2.36
Latin America	63.42	67.47	- 0.05	
Capital Reserve	146.10	146.10		4.79

ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
0131 220 0733

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
UK Small Cos	2364.00	2455.00		

ABTRUST UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
0800 833 580

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Amer Inc & Growth	61.26	63.57i	0.18	0.15
Emerging Mkts	67.31	72.29	0.21	0.05
European	150.30	156.30	- 0.60	
German	1085.00	1130.00i	- 6.00	1.63
Extra Income #	46.77	49.23		6.61
Far East Emg Eco	125.50	131.70	0.70	0.42
Fixed Interest #	25.57	26.32i	- 0.07	9.02
Fund Inv Tst	153.20	160.80i		9.55
Japan	162.00	169.30	1.30	
Latin America	57.17	59.51	0.13	0.67
Pacific	81.56	85.63	0.59	0.31
Property Share	73.25	76.90	- 0.20	2.29
UK Emerging Cos	69.78	75.43	- 0.17	1.28
UK Growth	54.45	56.70i	- 0.04	2.07
New World Port #	82.27	83.83	0.01	3.45
Ethical	77.13	80.43	- 0.08	2.30
Aberdeen Gilt Inc *	50.77	50.77	- 0.05	7.30

AIRWAYS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD

CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD
0171 606 0708

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Cazenove Portfolio	102.19	108.94	+ 0.16	1.85
American Portfolio	124.19	131.83	0.47	1.02
European Portfolio	136.11	144.78i	0.28	0.63
High Income	52.08	55.21i	- 0.15	7.49
Japanese Portfolio	62.51	66.25	- 0.54	
Pacific Portfolio	155.17	166.56	0.56	1.08
UK Equity	97.30	105.96i	- 0.22	3.45
UK Equity & Yld	57.80	61.25i	- 0.19	6.23
UK Smlr Cos	51.65	55.25	+ 0.03	1.25

CENT BD OF FIN OF CHURCH OF ENG
0171 588 1815

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Inv Fund	769.27	780.89		4.29
Fxd Int Sec	157.27	157.91		9.06

COIF CHARITY FUNDS
0171 588 1815

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Investment Inc	760.52	772.03		4.38
Investment Acc	£35.06	£35.59		
Fixed Int Inc	126.85	127.35		9.11
Fixed Int Acc	231.04	231.96		

CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD
0171 407 5966

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Beckman Intl	90.00	94.86i		3.96
Beck Bio-Tech	41.39	45.01		
Acorn Ethical Tst	137.49	136.98		0.45
City Fin Assets	79.09	83.05i	- 0.35	7.37
City Fin Intl	88.93	93.28i		0.46
Friars Hse Cap	310.51	330.33	- 4.12	2.56
Buckley Wrld Gth	135.80	143.95		
J Sel Inc/Gth Inc	56.67	59.51		3.22
Share Ubique	58.42	59.55i	- 0.50	5.08

CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD
0171 711 0771 Admin. 01277 227 300

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Emerging Markets	52.91	56.14	- 0.04	

CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD
0345 772 233

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
American Gwth	79.98	85.08	- 0.39	
Dragon Growth	71.44	76.40	- 0.33	0.36
Equity High Inc	89.96	96.44	- 0.36	4.22
-do- Accum	130.21	139.58	- 0.51	4.22
Extra Income Inc	26.65	28.07	+ 0.04	7.45
Extra Income Acc	29.33	30.89	- 0.05	7.45
European Gwth	63.36	67.77	+ 0.02	0.83
Evergreen	31.36	33.54	0.12	0.01
General Equity	105.19	111.61	+ 0.25	2.89
Japan Growth	44.02	46.83	- 0.52	
Pedigree Gwth	64.54	69.20	- 0.18	2.36
Pac Sml Cos Inc	37.72	40.56i	+ 0.03	1.42
-do- Accum	40.21	43.24	+ 0.04	1.42
Retirement Inc #	27.42	29.64	+ 0.10	6.03
Special Sits	46.37	49.86	- 0.04	2.39
UK & Overseas	59.97	63.63	0.14	0.56

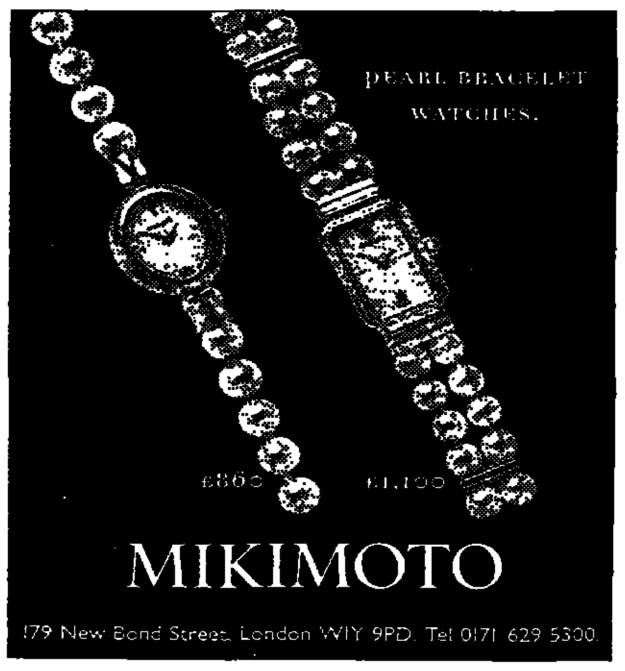
COLONIAL UT MGRS LTD
01634 898 000

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Balanced	70.26	73.18	+ 0.24	4.13
Capital	83.82	87.21	+ 0.24	2.62
High Income	51.90	54.06i	- 0.17	6.71
Top 50	56.58	58.94	- 0.18	2.60

COMMERCIAL UNION TRUST MGRS LTD
0181 686 9818
PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)
Income Funds

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Equity Inc	195.07	203.20i	- 0.56	4.52
Long Gilt	43.95	45.76i	+ 0.23	6.05
Monthly Inc Plus	50.34	52.43	+ 0.17	9.54
Preference Share	47.46	49.44i	+ 0.20	7.89

Balanced Funds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Gilts sparkle as equities struggle

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
556	419	Allied Domecq	452½	-2	6.7	13.2
625	477	Bulmer (HP)	535	+1	3.1	17.9
131	67½	Burn Stewart	68	+½	6.2	73.3
775	615	Glenmorangie A	760		2.0	19.5
496	411	Grand Met	470½	+1½	4.1	20.0
493	430	Guinness	444½	-½	4.3	13.8
378	315	Highland Dist	330½		3.2	15.8
803	277½	Matthew Clark	280½	-3½	10.7	13.4
141	93	Merrydown W	110½		5.1	10.1
2612½	1481¼	SA Breweries	1540¾	+34¾	2.1	

BANKS

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
3740¾	2743¾	ABN-Amro	3748¾	+71¼	3.4	12.9
563	528	Abbey Nat	643½	-2	4.5	11.9
400	315	Allied Irish	392		4.6	11.2
374¼	285	Aus New Z	355½	+7¼	5.2	8.7
5784¾	3843¾	Bank America	5700	-62½		
316	227½	Bank Scotland	280½	+3	3.3	10.3
1012	683	Barclays	985¼	+3½	3.8	10.5
526½	413	Bk of Ireland	500		4.3	11.3
482	379	Cater Allen	386½	-2	8.7	11.5
5668¾	4037½	Citicorp	5662½			
392	307½	Close Bros	324	-1	3.9	13.1
1575	1316¾	Commerzbank	1381¼	+3½	3.5	
1350	920¾	Dai Ichi Kan Y	933½	-16½	0.5	
3472½	2758¾	Deutsche Bk	2862½	-31¼	2.5	
806¼	593¼	Espirito Santo	746½	-3½	4.4	19.8
1507	1084¼	Fuji Bank Y	1097¼	-18½	0.4	
472	280	Gerrard Natl	274½		10.5	11.2
287½	196	Hambros	247½	+12	3.8	20.7
1316	931	HSBC	1265	-14	3.7	12.0
1284½	930	HSBC HK	1234½	-11½	3.8	11.7
477½	385	Irish Perm	477½		3.0	13.1
197	143	King Shaxson	185	+1½	6.1	16.1
465	405	Leopold J	466		5.2	16.8
416½	294½	Lloyds TSB	380½		3.8	16.5
885¼	566	Nat Aust Bk	858¼	-5½	6.2	8.9
776½	605½	Nat West	683	+3	4.8	8.9
67	40¼	Rea Brothers	62½		2.0	24.6
596	464	Royal Bk Scot	497½	-3	4.3	11.0
1465	1195	Schroders	1412½	+2½	1.5	18.7
1265	830	Schroders N/V	1190		1.8	13.5
134	95½	Singer & Fried	129	+1	4.1	9.5
729½	547	Stand Chart	658½		2.3	12.8
115¼	85½	Ulster	98½		3.8	10.6
£174¾	£131¾	Wells Fargo	£164¾		1.9	
352¾	264	Westpac	338	+4	3.9	11.1
370	268	Woolwich	317½		4.9	15.9

BREWERIES, PUBS & REST

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
90	38	Abdn Sth Hts	70			10.5
840½	702	Bass	790	+7	3.7	17.8
70	40	Be for the Bdr	48½		4.2	15.4
705	161	Burtonwood Brwf	170		4.2	15.3
135½	82	City Centre Rest	133½		2.1	23.2
621	463	Compass Gp	613½	+1	1.6	29.2
266	190	Eldridge P 'A'	247½	+8	2.5	22.5
540	413	Fuller Smi 'A'	452½		2.5	15.5
636	546	Greenalls Gp	594	+1½	3.1	16.1
671	567¾	Greene King	658	+1½	2.8	16.5
285	190	Grosvenor Inns	282½	+1½	3.6	21.5
359	204	Groupe Chez Gerd	246½		1.4	
357	290½	Hardy Hanson	294		4.3	11.0
3475	2700	Hall J	2700		2.6	14.5
73	45	Inn Business	67½		1.0	31.9
355	298	Mansfield	299		2.5	14.6
353½	275	Merston Thmp	293		3.1	12.8
673	535	Morland	587½		2.6	17.5
187½	178	My Kinda Town	187		2.0	16.3
7¼	4½	Paramount	6½		4.2	18.4
536½	217	PizzaExpress	511½	-5	0.7	39.4
438	345	Ramsdens (H)	382½		1.6	41.0
303½	138½	Regent Inns	302	+1	0.9	35.1
700	601	Scot & New	640½	-½	3.8	22.1
265	188	Tom Cobleigh	239½		1.4	30.8
313	246	Vaux Group	252½	+1	5.1	13.0
1227½	640	Wetherspoon JD	1227½	+7½	0.9	31.3
759	672	Whitbread	737	+6½	3.8	15.0
693	578	Wolverhampton D	609	-1	3.3	13.9
407	297	Yates Bros	391		2.2	25.2
650	425	Young A	617½	+2½	3.1	24.3

BUILDING & CONSTRUCT

BUILDING MATERIALS

CHEMICALS

DISTRIBUTORS

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

ELECTRICITY

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
126	88	Br Energy P/P	126	+2½	7.6	
737	479	East Midlands	618½	-7	8.4	10.3
673	565	London Elect	636½	+10½	7.5	9.0
208	164½	National Grid	180	+2½	6.8	7.2
615	373½	National Power	453½	+8½	6.3	8.6
724	484	Northern Elec	586½	-12½	9.2	6.4
455	368	Nthn Ireland	355½	+1	6.7	6.0
625	482	PowerGen	573	+8	4.9	6.8
372	271½	Hydro-Elect	302	+1	6.5	7.8
394½	293½	Scottish Power	329	+7	5.9	9.9
919	607	Southern Elec	786½		6.6	8.2
946	630	Yorkshire Elec	749½	+11	6.6	9.1

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

ENGINEERING

ENGINEERING, VEHICLES

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
151	108	Adwest	146	+1	5.7	31.1
295	180	Airflow Streamt	194	-1½	5.2	8.3
758½	473	Avon Rubber	664	-2	3.4	18.2
101	57¼	BSG	97¼		4.2	15.2
353	257	Bostrom	262½		3.2	10.8
29	15	Boustead	18½		7.6	38.7
307	175	ERF	293		1.9	
642	491	First Tech	641		1.7	21.3
1186	778	GKN	1066¼	-16	2.9	18.4
3820	2959	General Mtr	2287½		2.9	
869	487	Henlys	565	-9	2.9	14.3
1799¾	1312¾	Honda Motor	1539¾	-17¾	0.5	
502	386	Laird	429½	-5	3.6	13.8
475	425	Lookers	475		0.3	
260	172	LucasVarity	238½	-1	0.0	
149¾	91	Mayflower	142		1.8	40.9
190	145	Sykes	163		4.4	12.7
187	120½	T & N	129	-1	5.8	9.1
433	252½	Trinity Hldgs	284½		3.7	14.3

FOOD MANUFACTURERS

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
431½	356	Ass Brit Food	431¼	+7	2.8	14.0
284	233	Acatos & Hutch	287½	+1	4.2	21.9
63	38½	Albert Fisher	42½	-2	11.0	10.3
325	265	Banks (S C)	285		4.7	10.4
343	313	Barr (AG)	323½		3.2	25.4
38	21	Bensons Crisp	35	+1	0.8	8.9
411½	348	Booker	405½	+5½	7.4	15.9
38	25	Borthwick	27		6.1	33.5
507	222½	CPL Aromas	227½		2.6	12.4
587	458½	Cadbury-Schwpt	510	+3	4.0	17.2
92	65	Canadian Pizza	80½		7.5	11.8
348	298	Carrs Milling	325	+1	4.1	
112	66	Claughton	74½		7.0	
202½	171	Clarke	201½	+1	5.7	12.9
205½	182½	Dairy Crest Group	202	-½	5.6	18.0
444	297½	Dalgety	330	-2½	8.3	
47½	30½	Daniels S	46½	+4	0.5	
272	215	Devro	255½		3.9	26.2
90	61	Finlay (James)	80½	+½	5.8	15.1
257½	185	Geest	255	+11¼	4.0	
20	16	Global	16¼	-¼	4.6	11.1
384	278	Greencore	356		2.3	14.9
114	85½	Hazlewood Fds	94	-1	8.9	6.9
197	163½	Hillsdown	171½	-2	6.9	12.4
68½	53	JJ Group	62½		9.9	29.1
410	318	Linton Park	354		5.3	12.5
130	95	Matthews (B)	129	-½	3.6	11.3
231	197½	Nichols (V)	200		4.2	12.6
211	171	Nthn Foods	194½	-½	5.8	13.4
15	10½	Nthmbn Fm	14½	+½	1.3	7.6
118	60	Pascoe's	61½			
11	2¼	Pegasus	3¼			
85	67½	Perkins Foods	78½	-½	7.4	10.9
67	43½	Plant & Gen	46		5.5	
263	96	Sealy Farm	162½		2.6	11.0
42	18	Sims Food	22	+½		
498	449	Tate & Lyle	464½	+3	4.4	9.6
399	195	Treat	196	+1	3.6	8.3
462	392	Unigate	430	+2½	5.5	10.9
1411	1172½	Unilever	1366	+1¼	3.0	17.5
£102¾	8575	Unilever (NV)	9990¾	-21¾	2.5	17.6
274	185	Utd Biscuit	280½	+4	5.9	44.0
34	24½	WT Foods	29	-2½	5.9	19.4
92	19½	Yorkshire Food	19½		24.9	

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OTHER FINANCIAL

PHARMACEUTICALS

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
350	163¾	Brit Biotech	220	-5½		
715	340	Cantab Pharms	590			
693	441	Celltech	477½	-2½		
569	224	Chiroscience	360	+1½		
447	166	Cortecs	190			
1034½	767	Glaxo Well	950	-4	3.9	13.6
475	252	ML Laboratories	262½			
298	208	Medeva	251	-7½	2.1	14.2
248	175½	Peptide Thera	206½			
808	524	Scotia	567½	-2½		
266	183	Shire Pharms	191			29.0
96	69	SkyePharma	83½			
828	628½	SmithKlineBeech	753½	-10½	2.5	27.3
532	445	Therp Anb Inc	460			
633	457½	Vanguard	565	+55		
1780½	1216	Zeneca	1656	+8½	2.4	36.1

PRINTING & PAPER

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
155½	127¾	AG Holdings	144½		5.3	11.7
735	547	API	706		1.8	23.4
140	86½	App Holo	87½			
212	158	Arjo Wiggins	164	+½	5.7	
295	172½	Aspen Comms	149		5.2	11.7
422½	339	Bemrose	407½		4.5	13.6
212½	138	Blagden	211	+1	1.4	17.9
2725	2037½	Bowater Inc	2300	+57½		
346½	209½	Bowmore Intl	327½	+1½	1.0	25.9
770	645	Br Polythene	733½	+1	2.9	15.7
38	16	Br Thornton	18½			
169	132	Britton Grp	154½		2.6	13.2
245½	191	Bunzl	232		3.2	14.4
207¼	170½	Capital Inds	183½		3.7	12.7
378½	279	Cropper (James)	378½	+27	1.4	13.8
755	543½	De La Rue	555	+8½	5.3	13.1
95	73	Delyn Group	75		3.4	14.9
187½	131	Dolphin Pack	187½		3.9	15.3
117½	80½	Fairway Group	81½		6.1	13.4
267	190	Ferguson Intl	235		7.0	12.5
275	143½	Filofax	143½		2.9	9.0
177	112	Inveresk	144	-3½	5.0	12.9

PROPERTY

RETAILERS, FOOD

RETAILERS, GENERAL

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
522	258	Lloyds Chemist	511½		2.5	19.2
209½	149½	MFI	198	+1½	2.8	23.3
533	416½	Marks Spencer	480½	-1½	3.0	19.0
635	525	Menzies (John)	588		2.9	14.7
21½	15½	Merchant Retail	20½	+½		
1305	615	Moss Bros	1150		2.1	23.4
603½	430	Next	569½		2.9	23.3
63	31½	Olives (G)	35	-1½		
552	400	Dollond Intl	547½		2.7	18.3
85½	66	Partridge Fine	78		4.8	12.8
56	32	QS Hldgs	38½		5.1	
298½	191	Rosebys	280		2.7	21.0
105	85½	Sears	87	-1	5.5	73.3
34	14¼	Signet Group	25½			
534	399	Smith WH	441	-5½	4.4	
1080	820	Sothebys	1060		1.8	
362	271	Storehouse	271	-1	3.3	15.4
157	90	Stylo	153½	+1½	3.8	23.8
731	165½	T & S Stores	175		5.2	11.2
410	312½	Thorn	313½	-34	5.4	27.9
187½	159	Tie Rack	187		1.9	18.6
4	2½	Upton & South	3½			33.5
664	541½	Vendome	556	+2½	2.3	20.1
29½	12	WEW Group	28			
141	66	Wickes	69		3.8	
94	52	Wld of Leather	69½		3.1	
235½	198	Wyevale	235½		3.1	17.6

SUPPORT SERVICES

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
1550	883	ADT	1160			
353½	314½	AEA Tech	348½	+3	2.7	14.1
135	92	Alpha Airpst	113½	+½	5.5	14.5
39	26	Alphameric	37			14.5
348½	215	Amec WS	348½	+26	2.1	28.1
190	129	BNB Rest	161		5.3	8.7
400	283	BPP	360½		4.0	17.4
203	155	BSM	192½		4.6	12.7
2675	1015	BTG	2487½		0.2	
1350	400	Boland	500			
189	123	Brit Data Mgt	173½		3.9	20.9
110½	80	Brooks Service	94½		4.2	15.1
500	373	Business Post	500	+10	2.3	25.4
855	329	CMG	856	+6	0.9	38.5
275½	111½	CRT Grp	275½		1.9	35.1
958½	187	Calor Gp	662½		0.6	5.1
436½	285	Capita Group	438½	+7	1.3	36.1
10½	5½	Chemex	8½	+½	2.8	11.7
386	309½	Christian Sec	312	+2½	3.4	15.4
195½	92	Corp Services	170		3.3	20.7
59½	46	Coulls Coulig	55		4.9	17.7
255½	73	DCS Grp	234½		0.8	29.6
276½	203¼	Davis Service	242½	-1	5.0	13.1
635	367	Delphi	635	+2½	0.9	22.1
170	58	Dudley Jenkins	163½		2.7	22.4
82	38	EW Fact	55		3.8	8.4
116	61½	El Data Pre	69½		3.9	10.1
473	245	FI Group	473	+20½	1.1	41.2
522½	362	Hays	519	+5½	2.0	23.3
288	210	Hogg Robinson	277½		3.9	13.7
542	360	JBA Hldgs	454		1.1	27.2
311	256	Johnson Clean	275		5.1	11.5
149	103	Kalamazoo	117½		4.4	13.0
500	351	Kewill Sys	439½		2.3	13.0
347	57	LBMS	109	-3		

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

TEXTILES & APPAREL

TRANSPORT

WATER

ALTERNATIVE INV MARKET

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS (under 5 years)

1996 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
101⁹⁄₃₂	100⁷⁄₃₂	Treas 7% 1997	100⁷⁄₃₂		6.98	6.48
107⁵⁄₃₂	103⁷⁄₈	Treas 13¼% 1997	101⁷⁄₃₂		13.09	6.01
101⁹⁄₁₆	101⁷⁄₁₆	Exch 10½% 1997	101	-⅛	10.40	6.23
107⁵⁄₁₆	101⅝	Treas 8¾% 1997	101⅝	-⅛	8.61	6.52
114¹⁵⁄₁₆	102²⁵⁄₃₂	Exch 15% 1997	107¹¹⁄₃₂	-⅛	13.95	6.60
106⅞	100⁷⁄₃₂	Exch 9¾% 1998	103⅝	-⅛	9.44	6.61
103⁹⁄₁₆	100⅛	Treas 7¼% 1998	100⁹⁄₃₂	+⅛	7.27	6.75
115²³⁄₃₂	109²⁵⁄₃₂	Treas 14% 1998-01	110⁹⁄₃₂	-⅛	12.72	6.52
122¹⁹⁄₃₂	114½	Treas 15½% 1998	114⁷⁄₁₆	+⅛	13.51	6.91
114⅝	109	Exch 12% 1998	109⅝	+⅛	10.98	6.97
108⅝	104⅝	Treas 9½% 1999	104⅞	+⅛	9.06	7.02
116²³⁄₃₂	110¹⁵⁄₃₂	Exch 12¼% 1999	111⅛	+⅛	11.02	6.94
112¼	107	Treas 10½% 1999	107¹³⁄₃₂	+⅛	9.77	7.05
99¼	96	Treas 6% 1999	97⁷⁄₃₂	+⅛	6.14	6.94
112¹⁵⁄₃₂	107⁹⁄₁₆	Conv 10¼% 1999	108¹¹⁄₃₂	+⅛	9.46	7.11
109⁷⁄₃₂	103⁹⁄₁₆	Conv 9% 2000	105⁹⁄₃₂	+⅛	8.52	7.06
105⅛	101⁵⁄₁₆	Treas 8% 2000	103	+⅛	7.77	7.12
124¹⁵⁄₃₂	117¹⁵⁄₁₆	Treas 13% 2000	119⅝	+⅛	10.91	7.16
114	108⁵⁄₃₂	Treas 10% 2001	110⅛	+⅛	9.03	7.21

MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)

1996 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
101¹⁵⁄₁₆	96½	Treas 7% 2001	99⅝	+⅛	7.06	7.22
114⅝	108⅝	Treas 9¾% 2002	111⅛	+⅛	8.77	7.34
105¹⁵⁄₁₆	99⁹⁄₃₂	Treas 8% 2003	102⁷⁄₃₂	+⅛	7.79	7.34
117⅝	99	Treas 10% 2003	112⅞	+⅛	8.79	7.39
121⅝	114⅝	Treas 11½% 2001-04	115⅝	+⅛	9.92	7.26
84⅝	78⅝	Fund 3½% 1999-04	80⅝	+⅛	4.16	6.19
114⅝	107⅝	Conv 9½% 2004	112	+⅛	8.45	7.45
97⅝	91⅝	Treas 6¾% 2004	96	+⅛	7.09	7.43
105⅝	101⅝	Treas 8½% 2005	106⅝	+⅛	7.98	7.39
114⅝	108⅝	Conv 9½% 2005	112⅝	+⅛	8.45	7.50
131⅝	122⅝	Treas 12½% 2003-05	127⅝	+⅛	9.87	7.43
101⅝	94⅝	Treas 7¾% 2006	99⅝	+⅛	7.77	7.50
103⅝	96⅝	Treas 7¾% 2006	101⅝	+⅛	7.64	7.53
104⅝	97⅝	Treas 8% 2002-06	102⅝	+⅛	7.82	7.47

1996 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
125⅝	118⅝	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	121⅝	+⅛	9.69	7.40
108⅝	101⅝	Treas 8½% 2007	106⅝	+⅛	7.96	7.55
112⅝	103⅝	Treas 9% 2008	110⅝	+⅛	8.12	7.59
104⅝	96⅝	Treas 8% 2009	103	+⅛	7.77	7.65

LONGS (over 15 years)

1996 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
89⅝	81⅝	Treas 6¼% 2010	87⅝	+⅛	7.14	7.72
112⅝	104⅝	Conv 9% 2011	111⅝	+⅛	8.09	7.71
115⅝	104⅝	Treas 9% 2012	111⅝	+⅛	8.07	7.72
82⅝	75⅝	Treas 5½% 2008-12	82⅝	+⅛	6.70	7.47
105⅝	97⅝	Treas 8% 2013	102⅝	+⅛	7.81	7.74
101⅝	93⅝	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	100⅝	+⅛	7.72	7.72
107⅝	95⅝	Treas 8% 2015	102⅝	+⅛	7.79	7.77
111⅝	102⅝	Treas 8¾% 2017	109⅝	+⅛	7.95	7.77
141⅝	130⅝	Exch 12% 2013-17	140⅝	+⅛	8.55	7.77
103⅝	95⅝	Tr 8% 2021	103⅝	+⅛	7.75	7.72

UNDATED

1996 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
45⅝	41⅝	War Ln 3½%	44⅝	+⅛	7.87	
32⅝	29⅝	Treas 2½%	32⅝	+⅛	7.74	
50⅝	46⅝	Consols 4%	50⅝	+⅛	7.84	

INDEX-LINKED on projected inflation of: 10% 5%

1996 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	10%	5%
114⅝	111⅝	Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	113⅝		0.24	2.24
185⅝	176⅝	Treas IL 2½% 2001	184⅝	+⅛	2.58	3.19
191⅝	171⅝	Treas IL 2½% 2003	181⅝	+⅛	2.84	3.27
118⅝	112⅝	Treas IL 4⅜% 2004	118⅝	+⅛	2.90	3.37
191⅝	179⅝	Treas IL 2% 2006	190⅝	+⅛	3.05	3.37
172	161⅝	Treas IL 2½% 2009	171⅝	+⅛	3.19	3.44
177⅝	166⅝	Treas IL 2½% 2011	177⅝	+⅛	3.25	3.45
146⅝	138⅝	Treas IL 2½% 2013	146⅝	+⅛	3.31	3.51
155⅝	145⅝	Treas IL 2½% 2016	155⅝	+⅛	3.32	3.55
149⅝	138⅝	Treas IL 2½% 2020	149⅝	+⅛	3.45	3.53
124⅝	115⅝	Treas IL 2½% 2024	124⅝	+⅛	3.44	3.53
132⅝	113⅝	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	122⅝	+⅛	3.44	3.53

■ FILMS

A golden age for Antipodean cinema? That is the claim coming from Australia

■ MUSIC 1

Daniele Gatti prepares to rescue the fortunes of the Royal Philharmonic

THE TIMES ARTS

■ MUSIC 2

William Bolcom's epic Blake oratorio proves impressive on its first British outing

■ RECORDING

Building a Library offers a CD guide to Mozart's lovely Divertimento for string trio

The wizard new movies of Oz

CINEMA: Australian films have never been better — but will they get the distribution they deserve? **Carol Allen** reports

Michael Rymer's debut film *Angel Baby*, starring John Lynch and Jacqueline McKenzie as a young couple coping with mental illness

The first film made by the Australian director Nadia Tass, *Malcolm*, was a cheeky, anti-authority comedy about a bank raid. Her latest, *Mr Reliable*, which opens in Britain this week, is also a cheeky anti-authority comedy, and with the same star, Colin Friels; but this one is based on the real-life story of Wally Mellish, who became a folk hero in 1968 when he conducted a bizarre eight-day siege against the might of the Sydney police force in the full glare of the media.

Some observers of Antipodean cinema claim that what is now emerging as a second Australian film renaissance began around the time of *Malcolm*, made in 1985. But it is in the 1990s that the really idiosyncratic, original, quintessentially "Oz" films have been making the same sort of impact on world cinema screens as film-makers such as Peter Weir, Fred Schepisi, Philip Noyce and Gillian Armstrong made in the 1970s.

Presanna Vasudevan, head of the Australian Film Commission's office in London, points to *Strictly Ballroom* as a milestone. "It came as a shock to people to realise that Australian film-makers have diversity," she says.

Since then we have had such films as *The Piano* (directed by New Zealander Jane Campion and shot in New Zealand, but developed and financed in Australia); the darkly satisfying comedy *Muriel's Wedding*; *Priscilla, Queen of the Desert*, a gay road movie featuring Terence Stamp as he had never been seen before; and the international hit *Babe*.

But there are many good Australian films which never find a distributor outside their own land. "The problem is that one film like, say, *Babe* does well and distributors think, 'That's it for Australia this year'," Vasudevan says. "Now the problem is to persuade buyers that more than one Australian film can be a hit."

This November is a particularly good time for viewing the wares. There are 12 Australian films in the London Film Festival. They include *Mr Reliable* and the high-concept *Shine* to *Love and Other Catastrophes*, a witty romantic youth comedy from 23-year-old Emma-Kate Croghan, who has the promise of a new Jane Campion; *The Quiet Room*, which is a subjective study of a reclusive seven-year-old girl from Rolf de Heer, director of the startling *Bad Boy Bubby*; Tony Mahood's morality tale of a yuppie doing community service in *River Street*; and George Miller's documentary about a century of Australian cinema, *40,000 Years of Dreaming*.

> ❛ Inevitably the top Aussie talent often drifts to America ❜

The first three of these have British distributors, and Miller's film will eventually be seen on Channel 4 as part of the *Centenary of Cinema* series. But for many of the others their only opportunity to be seen here is when they are shown in the Barbican's third Australian film season in February, which then does a short national tour.

For example, Michael Rymer's touching and perceptive debut film, *Angel Baby*, which starred the Irish actor John Lynch and Jacqueline McKenzie from *Mr Reliable* as a young couple coping with mental illness, was the highly praised hit of last February's Barbican season, but it failed to find a distributor and goes to video next month.

The big problem for all film-makers outside Hollywood is finding their space in competition with the American giants. Inevitably much of the Australian talent is taken up by America. The latest is Baz Luhrmann, the creator of *Strictly Ballroom*, whose contemporary American take on *Romeo and Juliet* is currently riding high in the US box-office charts. Weir, Noyce and Schepisi have managed to survive in Hollywood without losing their unique voice. Others, such as Tass, who went there in 1992 to make *Pure Luck* with Danny Glover, Martin Short and Sam Wanamaker, found the studio politics and the restrictions excruciating.

"The film made buckets of money for Universal but I don't want to do the Hollywood bit again," Tass says. "I'd rather make the sort of film I want to make in Australia."

Tass is also wary of the effect when Hollywood moguls, impressed by the big bucks a low-budget Australian movie has made, decide they want a bit of the action. "If your money comes from Hollywood you need their stamp of approval. They put money into *Cosi*, which was originally a beautifully written play by Louis Nowra which I directed for the stage. As a film it was tugged, pulled and manipulated and it lost its heart. When the Hollywood formula comes inside our country, it really alters our sense of storytelling."

In his documentary, George Miller, whose directorial credits embrace the mayhem of *Mad Max* and the comic charm of *Babe*, attempts to nail down the Australian sense of film storytelling, which he likens to the narrative songs of the Aboriginal tradition. But there have been comparatively few films about the Aboriginal members of Australian society. Fred Schepisi's *The Chant of Jimmy Blacksmith* in 1978 was a critical success, yet the Australian public stayed away in droves. The subject is now resurfacing in such films as Nick Parsons's thriller *Dead Heart*, and the comedy *Brand New Day* that Tass is planning about a young Aboriginal boy in the pearl-diving area of North West Australia.

And there are other aspects of Australia's multicultural society to be dealt with. Clara Law's first Australian film, *Floating Life*, explores the conflict of cultures through the experiences of an immigrant Chinese family from Hong Kong. "This is the first film made about the Chinese immigration experience and the first to be made largely in Cantonese," she explains. "Australia is such a mixture of different ethnic groups that I feel I can contribute to finding our common cultural identity."

Meanwhile, films in production include the 19th-century immigrant experience of Peter Carey's Booker Prizewinning *Oscar and Lucinda*, currently being filmed by Gillian Armstrong with Ralph Fiennes and Cate Blanchett in the title roles, while David Parker is just finishing shooting *Diana and Me*, which stars Toni Collette as an infatuated fan of Diana, Princess of Wales.

The only cloud on the horizon for the renaissance of Australian films is last summer's change of Government. As Tass explains: "We're a very small nation and we depend on government financing. Without it the industry would have died many years ago. But it's an enormously good investment. The Labor Government recognised this. The Liberals are cutting left, right and centre, which is really crippling. I try to remain optimistic so I can get on with the job of making movies."

ORCHESTRAS: Daniele Gatti talks about his mammoth job at the ailing Royal Philharmonic, beginning with tomorrow's Royal Concert. Plus reviews

'We can make it work'

This year's Royal Concert should have special significance. Tomorrow's event at the Albert Hall will be Daniele Gatti's first appearance as music director of the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, and many hope that it will mark a new beginning for the embattled band. Last of the London orchestras in the Arts Council's affections, and troubled by the walkout of Vladimir Ashkenazy and firing of the managing director Paul Findlay, in its fiftieth anniversary season the RPO needs the kind of boost Gatti should provide.

The 35-year-old Gatti is not walking into the job with his eyes shut, but comes full of determined energy. "We can prove ourselves. The only way to build morale is work, work and work. I'm not simplifying the situation — if we work well, our morale will improve. We have our residency in Nottingham, but I think we can carve a really good niche for ourselves in London. I understand the funding problems of the past — sometimes the classical work was superficial, the bias was more commercial — and I believe that we will be rewarded if we improve. If we are not, I'll want to know why."

Things appear to be coming right at the RPO, which has just announced the appointment of a new managing director, John Manger. He will work closely with Gatti, who is now the most "hands-on" conductor in London — the RPO is the only orchestra at present with a music director. Gatti is not the first young Italian to become chief of a London orchestra: Muti's appointment to the Philharmonia 25 years ago comes to mind, and though Gatti lacks some of Muti's charisma, he is a solid, meticulous and versatile conductor in wide demand. He makes his Berlin Philharmonic debut next year.

Born and educated in Milan, in the best Italian tradition Gatti is equally at home in the concert hall and opera house. "Italy is the country of the lyric art, but it's important to do both kinds of music. I don't separate them, and I wouldn't like to be labelled as a conductor of one or the other. In both I'm now searching for the big arch that spans any work, the tension that underpins it.

"When you are young you tend to underline the little details first, you see the micro not the macro. Now I'm experiencing music a different way, and I think my studies of Toscanini recordings, which at first I didn't get at all, have helped. A performance must have life — I like conductors who get their hands dirty."

Gatti: likes getting his hands dirty

Gatti's first season with the RPO focuses on two composers: Mendelssohn and Richard Strauss, both included in tomorrow's concert. He plans the Mendelssohn cycle because "we have to provide a reason for people to attend our concerts, and Mendelssohn has been missing from the London scene. The standards here are Brahms, Mahler, Bruckner and Shostakovich — it's sometimes difficult to hear a note of Mendelssohn. A good way to approach an orchestra is to work on Classical music: it could be Mozart, but we're doing Mendelssohn.

"It's also important for the orchestra to have continuity — it's been changing style and repertory all the time. We'll be playing all the symphonies, the concertos and *Elijah*, music that is good for the string sound, good for the wind instruments.

"We're also looking at Strauss, because he wrote so well for the orchestra. I think the RPO could arrive at having an excellent sound for German music. The strings are warmer than in the other London orchestras."

Gatti is also to become music director of the Teatro Comunale in Bologna next season. His contract as principal guest conductor at Covent Garden will have run out, and he will be forsaking his other regular opera house, Chicago. "Like the RPO job, Bologna is a big step for me. It was the first Italian theatre I did much conducting in: I grew up there. Opera requires long rehearsal periods, so I'll be able to stay at home more." He is reluctant to commit himself to anything at the homeless Royal Opera until he knows where he would be working, so we are lucky that the RPO will be maintaining his presence in London.

JOHN ALLISON

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SEE PAGE 2 FOR TODAY'S EUROSTAR TOKEN

CHANGING TIMES

Touch of the circus

Hungarian SSO/Kobayashi
Birmingham

THE choice of encore was predictable. The surprise came when the Hungarian State Symphony Orchestra was actually playing Brahms's Hungarian Dance in G minor and the conductor reached out to the front desk of the violins and then to the front desk of the cellos and reversed their music stands in a ring-master's demonstration that they are capable of playing the piece without a net.

Kenichiro Kobayashi clearly enjoys living dangerously. The delays, accelerations and teasing rhythms in the Brahms were a virtuoso study in exaggerating the Hungarian-gypsy idiom to a perilous extreme. He clearly also enjoys his relationship with the orchestra he has been working with for more than 20 years: after a second encore — Berlioz's *Hungarian March* — he linked arms with the nearest instrumentalists as if posing for a seaside snap.

In the seventh concert of an extensive tour of England and Wales — and in the encouraging acoustic of Symphony Hall — the Hungarian SSO was sounding brilliantly fresh. It has its technical problems, not least in woodwind intonation, but in Kobayashi it has a principal conductor who does not seem to mind these things as long as he can rely on full-scale commitment and a readiness to take risks. The most rewarding example of what they can do in this way was Liszt's *Les Préludes* in a performance which restored the lustre to its faded colours and, thanks above all to an uncommonly accomplished first horn, quite dramatically confirmed the reality of its sentiment.

The soloist in Liszt's Piano Concerto No 1 in E flat was Dénes Várjon, a sensitive young pianist who might be better suited to the Beethoven concerto he is playing elsewhere on the tour but who confronted his heroic task both boldly and intelligently.

GERALD LARNER

[illegible]

A guide to the best available recordings, presented in conjunction with Radio 3

MOZART's DIVERTIMENTO, K563
reviewed by Stephen Johnson

BBC RADIO 3 BUILDING A LIBRARY

IN MUSIC, "divertimento" has connotations of "diversions", "recreation" — something stimulating, perhaps, but not too demanding. But in the late 18th century it specifically meant a work in five or six movements (two usually minuets) for chamber forces, designed for home entertainment. In formal terms, Mozart's Divertimento in D Flat for String Trio certainly qualifies; but background music for a substantial dinner? It is generally agreed that the work is too good for that.

There is humour, convivial wit, but of a kind that demands serious attention, and there are moments where the mood darkens, and more painful emotions are expressed. For me the ideal performance should convey both facets without siding with one or the other.

As to recordings, the buyer is not spoilt for choice: there are ten recordings in the current catalogue, but only five are worth serious consideration. For those who want period instruments, there is an imposing performance from L'Archibudelli (Sony Classical), a polished ensemble, with remarkably good intonation and a fine sense of style, but inclined to austerity, especially in the two slow movements.

Austere is the last word one would use for the other Sony offering from Gidon Kremer, Kim Kashkashian and Yo-Yo Ma. They are very musical, and their enthusiasm is wonderful, but it can lead to expressive exaggeration in the profound Adagio. At least they are never quite as cloyingly heart-on-sleeve as Joseph and Lillian Fuchs and Paul Tortelier, recorded live at the Prades Festival in 1953 (Koch International), but there is so much vitality in this performance, especially in the wickedly funny Andante variations, that it deserves to be heard, despite the poor sound.

Jascha Heifetz, William Primrose and Emanuel Feuermann made their recording 12 years earlier, but it sounds clearer and more immediate in the excellent Biddulph transfer. This is very fresh playing, expressively and intellectually compelling. But the performance I find myself drawn back to comes from the **Grumiaux Trio** on **Philips** (446 234-2, £9.99). There is a gentler, perhaps more introverted approach, but the subtlety, intensity and grace of expression are incomparable. No ensemble better conveys the charming ambiguity of the finale, or the sense that this is the end of a unique musical journey.

- *To order the recommended recording, with free delivery, please send a cheque payable to The Times CD Mail to 250 Western Avenue, London W3 6XZ or freephone 0500 418419; e-mail: bid@mail.bogo.co.uk*
- *Next Saturday on Radio 3 at 9am:* Debussy's La Mer

Just William . . . both of them

BBC SO/Slatkin
Festival Hall

IT IS the week for monumental works in London, *John Allison writes.* On Sunday, two nights before the ENO opening of Zimmermann's *Die Soldaten*, William Bolcom's *Songs of Innocence and Experience* had its first British performance under the auspices of the BBC Symphony Orchestra. Massive forces crowded the Festival Hall platform: an orchestra augmented by extra brass and percussion, mandolin, harmonica, electric guitars, acoustic guitar, piano and organ, a BBC Symphony Chorus joined by the Swingle Singers and New London Children's Choir, and no fewer than nine vocal soloists.

Bolcom's William Blake setting (premiered in 1984) is not quite an oratorio, not quite a song cycle. The movements, 46 vocal numbers plus a few orchestral interludes, are too short to be symphonic chunks, but there is something symphonic about the work's striving to embrace the world. Leonard Slatkin shaped a smoothly flowing performance that stressed this dimension.

Bolcom manages to get inside every genre: no line is ever completely predictable, none of the more sugary styles is ever too saccharine. Bolcom has made Blake his own: it is a totally American work, but then the social upheavals that Blake witnessed were echoed across the Atlantic.

The two numbers that worked least well were melodramas over accompaniment, though the narrator's overdeliberate stressing of words in *The Chimney Sweeper* in *Innocence* was little help. Some lilting tunes of the kind Blake might have recognised worked better than others; one of the best was in *The Echoing Green*, where choral singing was punctuated by bursts of electric violin.

David Rendall, Christine Brewer and Sarah Walker all made strong contributions, but none matched the young baritone Paul Whelan in his keen response to the words, especially in his *Voice of the Ancient Bard*. Linda Hohenfeld had simplicity and a shining soprano in numbers such as *A Cradle Song*, and Nan Christie sang with inspiring involvement, above all in *A Dream*.

Joan Morris, the composer's wife, brought squeaky-clean country style to all her numbers, and wit to *The Little Vagabond*. But the show was almost stolen by the rock singer André De Shields, who was slick in a variety of soft-rock and ballad numbers, and along with Slatkin he led the entire platform in the cool reggae of *Cruelty has a Human Heart*, a chillingly powerful finale.

هكذا من الاصل

■ VISUAL ART 1

In the heat of battle: Paul Nash's Second World War paintings go on show in London

■ VISUAL ART 2

. . . while the V&A offers a magnificent selection of classic American photography

THE TIMES ARTS

■ VISUAL ART 3

. . . and a collection of exquisite Japanese boxes is also on display in London

■ THEATRE

The life and tragedy of Kenneth Williams are recalled in *Think No Evil of Us*

VISUAL ART: **Richard Cork** on Paul Nash's powerful paintings of air combat; plus classic American photography

At war in the observer's cockpit

Of all the British artists who painted the horror and desolation of the First World War, Paul Nash stands out in his impassioned, eloquent indignation. He was an unlikely candidate for the task. Before 1914, his precocious reputation rested on small, visionary watercolours and drawings of the countryside he loved best. Shying away from machine-age modernity and identifying instead with Blake, Palmer and Rossetti, he seemed destined for a life of dream-fuelled rural seclusion.

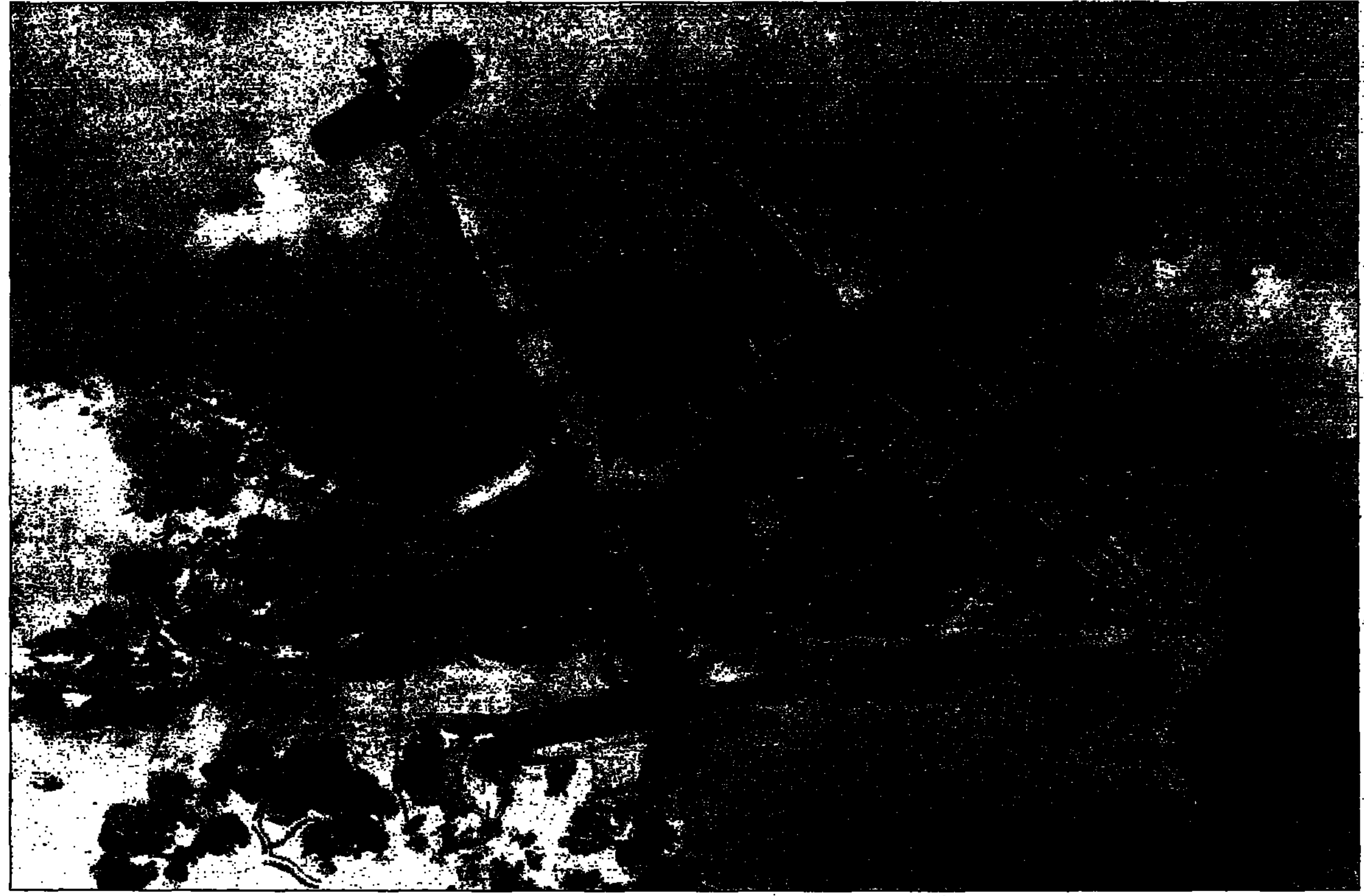
First-hand experience of the Western Front changed him irrevocably. After being invalided home as a soldier, he obtained a government commission and returned to Passchendaele as an official war artist. The terrain, destroyed and unrecognisable after a punishing yet militarily fruitless struggle, shocked him into a sudden, decisive maturity. He decided to become "a messenger", whose work would convince the British that war was "unspeakable, godless, hopeless". In paintings as bitterly protesting as the ironically titled *We Are Making a New World*, he condemned the devastation with unforgettable trenchancy.

Several of these earlier canvases are at the Imperial War Museum in the gallery next to *Aerial Creatures*, an illuminating and well-researched survey of Nash's relatively neglected Second World War work. Sir Kenneth Clark, chairman of the committee responsible between 1939 and 1945 for funding a prodigious range of war art, ensured that Nash played a role from the outset. Remembering the great paintings of 1918, he responded enthusiastically to Nash's request for employment.

But both men knew that the outcome would be radically different from the images inspired by Passchendaele. For one thing, the 50-year-old artist was no longer able to survey the conflict at close quarters. Already plagued by the ill-health that would kill him in 1946, he was forced to stay at a remove from the reality of battle. Moreover, his style had undergone startling changes in the intervening period. Veering between the British landscape tradition and an avant-garde fascination with Surrealism, he sometimes seemed uncertain about his central identity.

Nash's appointment as official war artist to the Air Ministry in March 1940 might suggest that his concerns had shifted, quite unexpectedly, from the land to the sky. In one sense they had: convinced that "machines were the real protagonists" in this struggle, he quickly grew convinced that "aeroplanes seemed paramount". The Surrealist side of his imagination became fascinated by their resemblance to predatory creatures.

In other ways, though, Nash's appointment revived longstanding preoccupations. They emphasise the underlying continuity in his work, not least an obsession with flight that stretched back as far as boyhood dreams. He had often seen himself floating like a leaf or bird, just above the tree-tops. Springing into the air delighted him, especially when he found himself able, by "something like a powerful breast stroke", to propel his body "through the ether". And the earliest exhibit in the show, a 1910 student drawing called *Combat (Angel and Devil)*, is dominated by a winged Pre-Raphaelite swordsman trying to protect himself from a beaked and feathered demon descending from the sky with hawk-like ferocity.



Paul Nash's *The Messerschmidt in Windsor Great Park*, the work of a man who, forbidden to fly in the Second World War, still captured the realities of combat

To his intense frustration, Nash never succeeded in getting airborne during the Second World War. Persistent attempts to obtain permission always foundered when doctors pronounced him unfit to fly. So he had to rely on pilots' accounts and newspaper descriptions, as well as taking his own photographs to supplement eyewitness sketching. It is tantalising to wonder what Nash might have painted if his flying fantasies were fulfilled. Seeing the world from an airborne vantage could have pushed him towards a greater degree of abstraction, like his Slade contemporary Edward Wadsworth during the First World War.

The experience of flight may not, however, have benefited his art. Confined to the ground, Nash began visiting Cowley Dump near Oxford and studied wrecked aircraft. Encountering these battered remnants was enormously fruitful, leading him to produce within months the finest of all his Second World War paintings: *Totes Meer*. Beneath a spectral moon, the gashed wings and shattered bellies of German planes are heaped in a low-lying landscape. The harshly illuminated carcasses cast ominous shadows on the earth. From a purely propagandist point of view, *Totes Meer* could be seen as a patriotic celebration of effective British resistance. But the overwhelming emotion is elegiac. Nash implicitly mourns the death of young German pilots as he surveys these brittle metallic fragments. And the choice of picture title indicates that he linked the broken forms with his earlier paintings of a wave-pierced sea.

Here, more than anywhere, is the link with his experience in the previous war. For Nash started painting seascapes at Dymchurch on the south coast after he had completed his great Western Front canvases of 1918-20. Exhausted by the horrors he had witnessed, and suffering physically from the after-effects of a gas attack, he saw Dymchurch Strand as a postwar wasteland. The water seems frozen in a state of angular paralysis, possibly reflecting the glacial condition of Nash's own traumatised emotions.

He gave the theme its definitive expression in an even starker painting called *Winter Sea*. Begun in 1925 but only finished 12 years later, this uncompromising canvas suggests that he remained haunted by a fear that the world might never recover from the catastrophic blight inflicted by the Great War. In this respect, *Winter Sea* is prophetic of the hostilities renewed only two years after its completion. And its successor, *Totes Meer*, fulfils that prophecy in the most mournful manner imaginable. Although finished in 1941, the painting's death-like finality indicates that everything, even violence itself, has somehow come to an end in this chill, glinting graveyard.

> ‘He became fascinated by aircraft's resemblance to predatory creatures’

None of Nash's subsequent pictures conveyed the tragedy of war with the same power. Determined to experiment, he produced a large Battle of Britain painting later in the same year. This time, however, he adopts a more distant vantage and revels in the undulating white trails left by the aircraft as they dodge, weave and plummet through the sky. Painted with greater freedom than *Totes Meer*, it nevertheless verges on the decorative. Nash appears to be entranced by semi-abstract pattern-making, and in danger of forgetting the bleak reality of death altogether.

In a more propagandist mood, he was capable of making anti-German collages. A 1942 series called *Follow the Führer* shows a flying shark devouring Luftwaffe bombers, and an army of yelling skulls abandoned in the Soviet snow. On the whole, though, a gentler mood prevails. Nash often seems captivated by the lyrical spectacle of Whitleys taking off at sunrise, Hampdens at sunset, and long-haul planes in the moonlight. The romance of flight triumphs over the fell purpose of their journeys.

Only in a large, culminating canvas called *Battle of Germany* does he finally acknowledge that the pilots' travels end in devastation on an apocalyptic scale. Dark, noxious smoke spreads upwards from the ground, appearing to solidify in the air and then ooze like a bloodstain above a band of blue identified by Nash himself as "part of a shell-shocked sky".

Because it was more abstract than Nash's previous war pictures, Clark confessed to a feeling of "apologetic bewilderment and incomprehension" when he viewed the newly completed canvas in 1944. But the truth is that *Battle of Germany* is a more vital and adventurous achievement than the dogged, overliteral and clumsy *Defence of Albion* painted two years before.

Conscious that he did not have long to live, Nash attempted in *Battle of Germany* to push his art towards a new synthesis. Topical reportage is fused, here, with visionary insight: descending parachutes are simplified in the same summary, elemental way as the colossal moon. Even as Nash's physical strength ebbed away, his imaginative stamina strove for renewal to the end.

● Aerial Creatures *is at the Imperial War Museum (0171-416 5000) to Jan 26*

AROUND THE GALLERIES

IT IS several years since the work of Jane Redfern has been seen in London. As the new show at the Boundary Gallery demonstrates, it is unwise to take one's eyes off her for a moment: she is blissfully unpredictable. For some time now she has been hovering on the edge of abstraction. It is clear that her apparent subjects, when they can be unequivocally disentangled, are little more than pretexts for her joyous romps with paint. The oil paint may be washed on thin, like watercolour, or laid on almost literally with a trowel. And always this range of dazzling colour which shows her as a true heir of the Scottish Colourists. The ostensible subjects this time are women, and sometimes horses, on a beach. Or, in pastel, scenes from rural France. The style is unmistakable, the ripe sensuality of it all irresistible.
Boundary Gallery, 98 Boundary Road, NW8 (0171-624 1126), Wed-Sat 11am-6pm, until Jan 18 (closed Dec 22-Jan 4).

■ ON THE early bird principle, a young Swedish naval lieutenant visiting Japan in 1887 would be well placed to collect the cream of Japanese art objects then available. But the unnamed Swede, ultimately an admiral, who amassed the collection now on view at Eskenazi clearly had taste as well as enthusiasm, and what he acquired on the spot merely whetted his appetite, so that his collection was subsequently augmented from leading European dealers. The tradition has apparently been kept up by the three subsequent generations of his descendants. The result is a dazzling assemblage of 55 inro and 27 boxes dating from the 16th to 19th centuries. An inro is in fact a special form of box intended as a travelling writing cabinet cum purse, and while some are exquisitely elegant and simple, others are very elaborate indeed. Though one requires specialised knowledge to recognise the symbolism of the motifs, the extraordinary beauty of design and workmanship is accessible to everybody.
Eskenazi, 10 Clifford Street, W1 (0171-493 5464), Mon-Fri 9.30am-5.30pm, Sat 10am-1pm, until Nov 30.

■ THE preoccupation of Victorian artists with fairies presumably has something to do with a retreat from grown-up life and, even more, grown-up sex. But at least the new show at the Maas Gallery, *The Stuff That Dreams Are Made Of*, indicates that what is thrust out through the door tends to creep back through the window. The supposed insubstantiality of fairy folk certainly permits an astonishing variety of bare breasts, diaphanous garments and suggestive poses. The imagery is often unconsciously sexual and in some cases, as with Richard Doyle's Rumpelstiltskin picture, consciously so. This may be just a narrow tributary to the great stream of Victorian art, but the veiled charms are sufficiently manifest.
Maas Gallery, 15a Clifford Street, W1 (0171-734 2302), Mon-Fri 10am-5pm, until Dec 20.

JOHN RUSSELL TAYLOR

Striking camp

THEATRE

Think No Evil of Us
King's Head, N1

BY SUBTITLING his one-man show *My life with Kenneth Williams*, David Benson leads us to expect another warts-and-all exposure from a notetaking lover. We soon discover that the two men never met, although their paths did cross when Williams read a story the 13-year-old Benson sent to a *Jackanory* competition. The young author was mortified because a) he had hoped for Spike Milligan, and b) since the whole school knew Williams was the arch-priest of camp, he (Benson) was now tarred with the same embarrassing brush.

Only after Williams killed himself did Benson find he wanted to speak with the dead man's voice, and make those extraordinary expressions with eyebrows, nose and mouth.

When he is being himself Benson has the look of a young James Cagney, and it is as himself that he speaks in the central section of his show. The substantial length of this comes as a surprise, until we understand that his show is the occasion for exorcising his own demons, and that they are as dark as those which tormented the arch-priest.

The show contains many Williams phrases, and uncountable intonations of the sorts of word he would single out for attention — "unrestrainedly", "otiose" — turning his mouth to lift the word up for inspection and at the same time chew it to death. But instead of reproducing familiar sketches, Benson selects or creates material and delivers it as Williams might have done: a *Hiawatha* parody, Williams ogling a muscular road digger, and Williams longing to be dead.

It is to put his self-disgust into some kind of context that Benson steps back into himself and hopscotches along his own life, landing usually on the squares marked with his mother's name. You can see that Benson wants this to engage with his account of Williams, and it doesn't really do so. But even if the show has not yet found its best and final shape the material is fascinating. Benson himself has a winning charm, and his portrait of the uglier aspects of Williams is an eye-opener.

JEREMY KINGSTON

American snaps that crackle and pop

John Russell Taylor on an exhibition of high-quality photography at the Victoria and Albert Museum

The couple stopped at a Park Avenue traffic light look fairly bland and noncommittal: just another day. But their back-seat passenger thinks otherwise. He rears up, gibbering with fury at whoever has just pulled up behind: the photographer, presumably, but more immediately, us. He is, of course, a pet monkey. So what else is new?

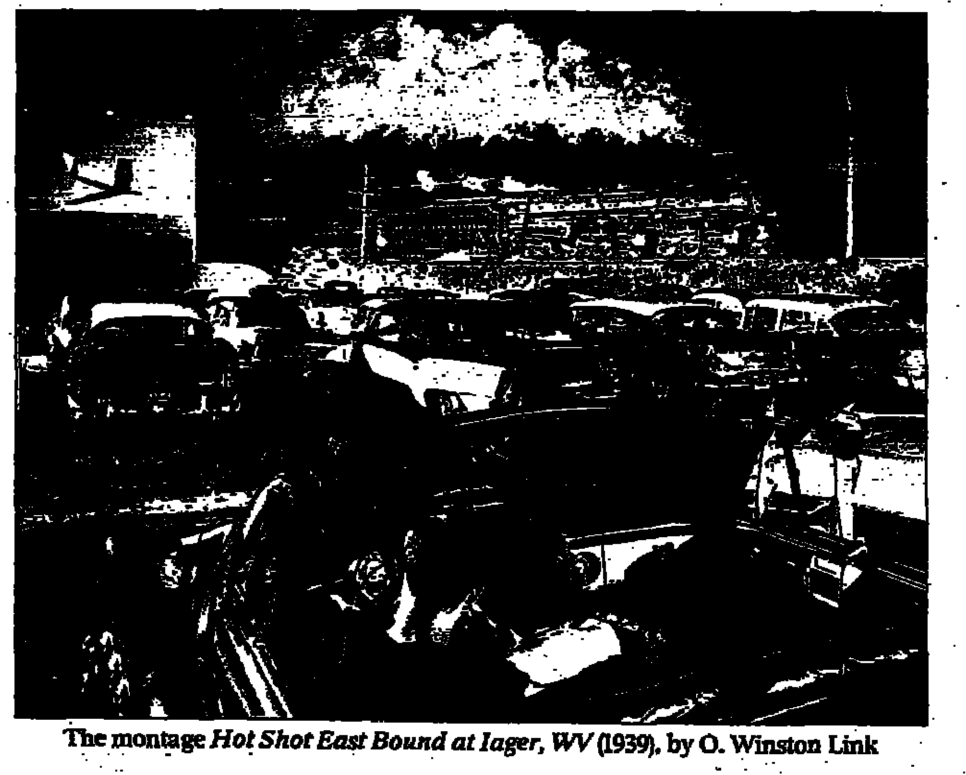
Few photographers have matched Gary Winogrand's skill at catching the bizarre at the heart of everyday New York, and this 1959 image in the current Victoria and Albert show *American Photography 1890-1965* is not even one of his more Surreal. But it does assert itself as quintessentially in the American photographic grain.

Obviously this collection of 185 pictures from the Museum of Modern Art, New York, has been very carefully and rigorously selected. The quality is extraordinarily high — definitely a show about photography as an art — and the principle of selection seems to be fairly even-handed. Without claiming to be comprehensive, the show manages to avoid many of the most famous, inescapable images and still be decently representative.

The turning point in the show comes just before the First World War, as it did in many arts in many countries. What happens then is the rise of Modernism: the older, painting-based pictorialist tradition is swept aside by the new men and women, Stieglitz and his associates, who were determined to establish photography as an art in its own right. But whereas in Europe similar movements led to a lot of abstraction and Surrealistic manipulation of the image, in America the Modernist solution was to look with ever greater intensity and immediacy at the world around.

What Henry James called "the tone of the times" still counted, however. Photography could not be an isolated phenomenon. But if we can see an evident relationship between a photograph such as Wright Morris's *Gano Grain Elevator, Western Kansas* (1939), with its simple, abstract geometry, and the Precisionist painting of the interwar years in America, at least it seems that photography leads, and the other arts follow. But this also establishes another principle in American photography: that it all arises out of observation rather than invention.

Consequently, if you look for the experimental in American art you tend to find it wearing a documentary disguise. Paul Outerbridge's *Ide Collar* (1922) is a perfect abstraction, the curve cutting across a rigidly chequered background, but it is also an accurate depiction of a collar displayed against a chessboard. Edward Weston's *Hot Coffee, Mojave Desert* (1937) is a model Surrealist image, the giant cup and saucer sitting comfortably in the middle of a sandy waste, but it is also recognisable as a naive advertisement just waiting for someone to see the funny side.



The montage *Hot Shot East Bound at Iager, WV* (1939), by O. Winston Link

Some of the earlier photography in the show is very evidently calculated. One wonders how long it took Frances Benjamin Johnston to set up *Stairway of Treasurer's Residence, Students at Work* (1899). But probably the famously unsparing "documentary" pictures of Diane Arbus, with their relentless parade of grotesques, took just as much trouble to arrange. Even with a painter like Charles Sheeler behind the camera, the image of a corner of his studio looks studiously unarranged, and frequently when the most formidable technique is brought to bear it is used mainly to convince us that the picture resulting is just a happy snapshot: who would guess at a glance that O. Winston Link's evocation of a drive-in movie, *Hot Shot East Bound at Iager, WV* (1939), is in fact pieced together from eight or more separate exposures?

Maurice Bowra once proposed a North-South division of the world into cultures more interested in drink and cultures more interested in sex. When asked where the United States fitted in, he opined: "Drink masquerading as sex." In much the same way, the proper stance for American photography seems to be art masquerading as accident.

● American Photography 1890-1965 *is at the Victoria and Albert Museum, Cromwell Road, SW7 (0171-938 8349) until Jan 26*

AA
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■ CHOICE 1

Allen Ginsberg's *Howl USA* is set to music for the Kronos Quartet

VENUE: Tonight at the the Festival Hall

■ CHOICE 2

Helen Field stars in James MacMillan's opera *Inés de Castro*

VENUE: Festival Theatre. Edinburgh, tomorrow

THE TIMES ARTS

■ POP 1

Sting gets a warm reception as he opens his tour on a cold night in Dublin

■ POP 2

. . . but the Lightning Seeds' brand of perky melodies proves insubstantial in Cambridge

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Gillian Maxey

LONDON

AMERICAN INDEPENDENTS The season ends with the only British concert this year by David Harrington's talented **Kronos Quartet**. Lee Hyla's setting of Allen Ginsberg's poem, *Howl USA*, and a staged version of George Crumb's inspirational *Black Angels*, combine to form a stunning programme
Festival Hall, South Bank, SE1 (0171-960 4242) Tonight, 7.30pm. Ⓢ

DIE SOLDATEN (SOLDIERS) English National Opera is staging the first British production of Zimmermann's post-war epic. Conceptually daring, *Die Soldaten* reflects on a society where humanity is destroyed by militarism. Lisa Saffer, in her house debut, sings the role of Marie, a respectable merchant's daughter, who descends into prostitution and penury. Directed by David Freeman, and conducted by Elgar Howarth.
Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-632 8300) Opens tonight, 6pm. Then November 23, 26, 28, December 5, 10 (6.30pm), 12, 6pm. Ⓢ

TATE GALLERY: An exhibition of **Works from the Ted Power Collection** opens today. Power (1899-1993) was both a trustee of the Tate, from 1968-75, a generous supporter of the Gallery and an adventurous collector of modern European and American art of the post-war period. The exhibition includes pieces by Brancusi, Picabia, Dubuffet, Oldenburg and Beuys.
Tate Gallery, Millbank, SW1 (0171-887 8000/887 8008) Mon-Sat, 10am-5.50pm, Sun, 2-5.50pm. Until February 16

ELSEWHERE

BRIGHTON: The Reduced Shakespeare Company presents **The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)**. All 37 plays, performed in 97 minutes
Theatre Royal, New Road (01273 328488) Tonight-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Thurs, 2.30pm, Sat, 4pm

EDINBURGH: **Scottish Opera** returns to the Edinburgh Festival Theatre for the second time this season. *Il trovatore*, Verdi's grand opera of love and death, will be performed tonight, Thursday and Saturday. On Wednesday, Helen Field will sing the title role in James MacMillan's first, full-length opera, *Ines de Castro*, after John Clifford's play
Edinburgh Festival, Nicolson Street (0131-529 6000) Tonight-Sat (except Fri), 7.15pm Ⓢ

GLASGOW: Good Company presents a touring version of **Hard Times**, Dickens's tale of power and repressed passions in Victorian Coketown. Philip Madoc stars as Bounderby, Ken Farrington as Gradgrind and Tom Colchar as Stephen Blackpool. With Janet Brown, Joanne Thirsk, Aled Jones
Theatre Royal, Hope Street Ⓢ (0141-332 9000) Tonight-Sat, 7.15pm, mats Thurs and Sat, 2.15pm. Next in **Preston**, Charter (01772 258858), November 26-30

SOUTHAMPTON: **English National Ballet** presents its highly acclaimed production of *Alice in Wonderland*. Derek Deane's imaginative choreography, and Paul Kieve's breathtaking illusions, vividly evoke the magic and mystery of Lewis Carroll's classic children's story
Mayflower, Commercial Road (01703 711811) Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Thurs, 2pm, Sat, 2.30pm Ⓢ

LONDON GALLERIES

Alan Cristea: David Hockney (0171-439 1866) . . . **Curwen**: H-Dieter Pietsch "Junctures": Recent Works (0171-636 1459) . . . **The Gallery in Cork Street**: Laurence Broderick (0171-287 8408) . . . **Mall**: New English Art Club (0171-930 6844) . . . **National**: National Gallery Collectors: John Julius Angerstein (0171-747 2885) . . . **National Theatre**: Dazzle (0171-928 2035) . . . **Redfern**: Leon Underwood and His Pupils: Karin Szekessy (0171-734 1732) . . . **Royal Academy**: From Mantegna to Picasso (0171-439 7438) . . . **V & A**: American photography 1890-1965 (0171-938 8500)

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ House full, returns only
◩ Some seats available
□ Seats at all prices

◩ **CYRANO DE BERGERAC** Tom Mannion plays the cove with the conk in Communicado's celebrated production by Gerry Mulgrew, translated into broadish Scots by Edwin Morgan
Almeida, Almeida Street, N1 (0171-359 4404) Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat Sat, 3pm. Until November 23

□ **FOOL FOR LOVE** Ian Brown directs Barry Lynch and Lorraine Ashbourne in Sam Shepard's fierce drama of love on the edge of the Mojave desert. With Gawn Grainger
Donmar Warehouse, Earlham Street, WC2 (0171-369 1732) Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs and Sat, 4pm. Until Nov 30

◩ **THE HERBAL BED** Peter Whelan's thrilling exploration around a true incident in the life of Shakespeare's daughter. Moral attitudes questioned, love tested. Michael Attenborough directs a splendid cast
Pit, Barbican Centre, EC2 (0171-638 8891) Tonight-Thurs, 7.15pm; mat Thurs, 2pm. In rep

■ **JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR** Restored theatre, revived show, the theatre after 56 years, the show back to celebrate its 25th anniversary. Gale Edwards directs a reconceived production
Lyceum, Wellington Street, WC2 (0171-656 1807, booking fee) Opens tonight, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm.

□ **JOHN GABRIEL BORKMAN**. Paul Scofield, Vanessa Redgrave, Eileen Atkins and Michael Bryant, directed by Richard Eyre. A mighty cast for Ibsen's penultimate play, concerned with guilt, remorse and reconciliation
National (Lyttelton), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252) Tonight and tomorrow, 7.30pm. In rep. Ⓢ

◩ **OLD WICKED SONGS**. Bob Hoskins returns to the stage to play a Viennese music professor teaching Schumann to an arrogant young pianist (James Callis). Elijah Moshinsky directs Jon Marans's play
Gielgud, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5065). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Tue, 2.30pm, and Sat, 4pm

□ **SHAKESPEARE FOR MY FATHER** Lynn Redgrave used Shakespeare to illustrate her emotions for her father, Sir Michael.
Theatre Royal, Haymarket SW1 (0171-930 8800) Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Thurs and Sat, 3pm. Ⓢ

■ **THE WEAVERS**. Fascinating beer-pit staging of Hauptmann's famous naturalistic drama.
Gate, Pembridge Road, W11 (0171-229 0706) Mon-Sat, 7.30pm. Until November 23.

□ **WHEN WE ARE MARRIED** Dawn French, Alison Steadman and Leo McKern head the splendid cast of Jude Kelly's production of the Priestley evergreen, first seen at Chichester
Savoy, Strand, WC2 (0171-836 8888) Tue-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed, Sat, 3pm.

◩ **WHO'S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA WOOLF?** Diana Rigg and David Suchet in Howard Davies's powerful Almeida production of Albee's searing play
Aldwych, Aldwych, WC2 (0171-416 6003) Mon-Sat, 7.15pm, mats Wed and Sat, 2.15pm

LONG RUNNERS

□ **Blood Brothers**: Phoenix (0171-369 1733) . . . ◩ **Cats**: New London (0171-405 0072) . . . □ **Jolson**: Victoria Palace (0171-834 1317) . . . ◩ **Les Misérables**: Palace (0171-434 0909) . . . ◩ **Miss Saigon**: Drury Lane (0171-494 5400) . . . ■ **The Phantom of the Opera**: Her Majesty's (0171-494 5400) . . . □ **Starlight Express**: Apollo Victoria (0171-416 6054) . . . ◩ **Sunset Boulevard**: Adelphi (0171-344 0055) . . . □ **Tommy**: Shaftesbury (0171-379 5399) . . . □ **The Woman in Black**: Fortune (0171-836 2238)

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

THE DAY THE SUN TURNED COLD (12): Spellbinding Hong Kong drama about family violence, secret love and murder, set in China's shivering northeast. Director, Yim Ho.
Curzon Phoenix (0171-369 1721)

◆ **THE FIRST WIVES CLUB** (PG): Broad comedy about vengeful Manhattan wives, with juicy parts for Diane Keaton, Bette Midler and Goldie Hawn. Director, Hugh Wilson
Barbican Ⓢ (0171-638 8891) **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **Empire** Ⓢ (0990 888990) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **Phoenix** (0181-883 2233) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0990 888990) **Virgins: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** Ⓢ (0171-434 0031)

◆ **THE ISLAND OF DR MOREAU** (12): Part-silly, part-nasty adaptation of H.G. Wells's tale, with Marlon Brando, Val Kilmer and David Thewlis. Director, John Frankenheimer
Empire Ⓢ (0990 888 990) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **Plaza** Ⓢ (0990 888990) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0990 888990) **Virgins: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** (0171-434 0031)

TRUE BLUE (15): *Chariots of Fire* on the River Thames: a conventional account of the 1987 mutiny among Oxford's boat race team. With Johan Leysen and Dominic West, director, Ferdinand Fairfax.
Odeon Leicester Square (01426 915683)

CURRENT

◆ **BRASSED OFF** (15): Yorkshire colliery band fights for survival. Sugary comedy with a few drops of vinegar. With Pete Postlethwaite, Tara Fitzgerald, Ewan McGregor. Director, Mark Herman
ABC Tottenham Court Road (0171-636 6148) **Empire** (0800-888 911) **MGM Baker Street** (0171-935 9772) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426-914 666) **Swiss Cottage** (0171-586 3057) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0990 888990) **Virgins: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527)

BREAKING THE WAVES (18): Lars Von Trier's extraordinary melodrama about a naive Scottish girl (Emily Watson, wonderful) giving her all to an oil-rig worker. With Stellan Skarsgård
ABC Shaftesbury Avenue (0171-836 6279) **Phoenix** (0181-883 2233) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Virgins: Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527)

◆ **CHAIN REACTION** (12): Who is sabotaging a university energy project? Slickly packaged, derivative thriller with Keanu Reeves and Morgan Freeman. Director, Andrew Davis
Odeon Mezzanine Ⓢ (01426 915683) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0990 888990) **Virgin Trocadero** Ⓢ (0171-434 0031)

COURAGE UNDER FIRE (15): Denzel Washington searches for truth in the Gulf War. Half-way intelligent drama, with Meg Ryan. Director, Edward Zwick.
Odeon Haymarket (01426 915353)

◆ **THE FAN** (18): Psychotic baseball fan Robert De Niro stalks his idol, Wesley Snipes. Wearisome and empty fare from director Tony Scott.
ABC Tottenham Court Road (0171-636 6148) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Mezzanine** Ⓢ (01426 915683) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **Plaza** Ⓢ (0990 888990) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0990 888990)

◆ **TIN CUP** (15): Pleasing comedy about a reckless golfer (Kevin Costner) trying for the US Open. With Rene Russo and Don Johnson. Director, Ron Shelton
UCI Whiteleys Ⓢ (0990 888990) **Virgin Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Warner** Ⓢ (0171-437 4343)

POP: Ireland is charmed by the Police man; but Lightning Seeds and Shed Seven fail to please

Englishman woos Dublin

Sting
The Point, Dublin

Whatever one may say about Sting, there can be no doubting his masterful ability to please his audience. Through a combination of personal charm, erudite musicianship and a singing voice as golden as his hair, he served up a show that had the crowd eating out of his hand.

Such was the force of Sting's musical and physical presence that by the time the final note of the closing ballad, *Fragile*, filtered through the speakers, the 30-minute warm-up set by Shawn Colvin seemed but a distant memory. To be fair, the South Dakota songstress acquitted herself as well as could be expected under the circumstances, but with an acoustic guitar as the sole canvas on which to paint her love-addled portraits, one couldn't help feeling that a much smaller, more intimate venue would have been a more appropriate setting for her talents.

Sting, an Englishman in Dublin for the first of a three-night stint in an all-seated Point, could find himself being granted the freedom of the city by the end of his tenure. On a bitterly cold night, it was apt that he should open proceedings with *The Hounds of Winter*, from his most recent album, *Mercy Falling*. Snapping at its heels were a clutch of songs from the record: *I Hung My Head*, an almost biblical first-person narrative of death, revenge and guilt; *I Was Brought to my Senses*, where love and nature commune in perfect harmony, and *Let Your Soul Be Your Pilot*, an exhortation to an uncertain partner.

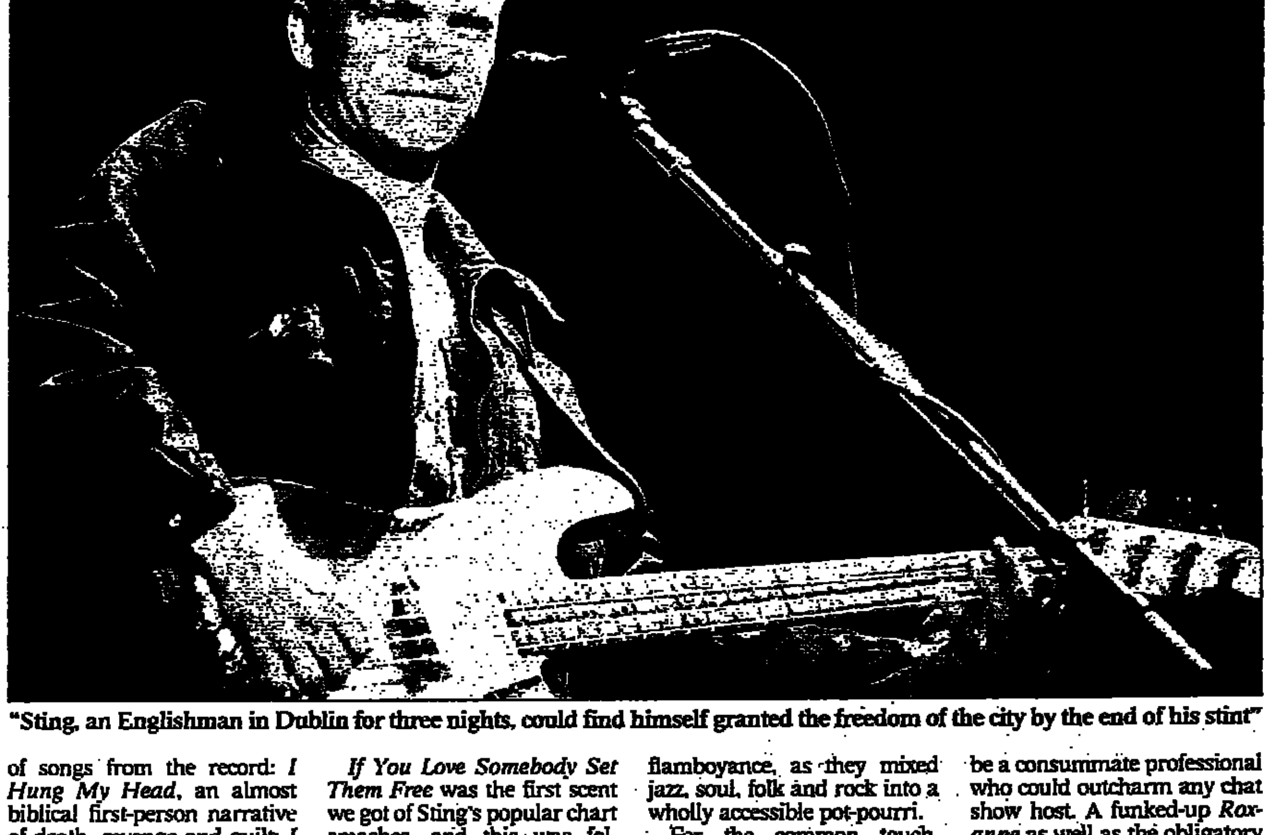
If You Love Somebody Set Them Free was the first scent we got of Sting's popular chart smashes, and this was followed by the old Police hit *Every Little Thing She Does is Magic*.

Sting's band were uniformly excellent, matching virtuosity with enthusiasm, graft with flamboyance, as they mixed jazz, soul, folk and rock into a wholly accessible pot-pourri.

For the common touch, Sting brought on three members of the audience to help him to sing *I'm So Happy I Can't Stop Crying*, a song about divorce that descended into farce but showed him to be a consummate professional who could outcharm any chat show host. A funked-up *Roxanne* as well as the obligatory *Every Breath You Take* and *Englishman In New York* were also given the once-over by the tireless superstar.

NICK KELLY

LINDSAY MAGGS



"Sting, an Englishman in Dublin for three nights, could find himself granted the freedom of the city by the end of his stint"

Sugar with spice

Lightning Seeds
Cambridge Corn Exchange

THE Lightning Seeds' history would seem to be linked irrevocably to football. Not only is their *Life of Riley* used by BBC's *Match of the Day*, but their *Three Lions* continues to echo across stadiums even as the memory of Euro 96 fades. But the football connection is misleading: the group's real ability is to deliver records that are a radio producer's dream: perky pop songs with sugary choruses that stick to you like candyfloss.

What works wonderfully as snatched moments on the radio, however, does not always transfer well to the stage. Sweet melodies that grab attention among the routine bustle of casual listening can become cloying in concert. It is a danger that the Lightning Seeds do not quite avoid. Not that any lover of bold tunes has much to complain about. The evening is full of them. From the rollicking delights of the opener to the encore, the group produces a string of hooks that recall the best of Sixties pop innocence: all of them the product of Ian Broudie's comprehensive musical skills.

Until recently the Lightning Seeds were, in fact, a one-man band. Broudie did everything. Now he has a four-piece band to keep him company on stage and in the studio. It is a pity, though, that they perform more as accompanists than as equals. Their playing seemed rather too polite to generate much sense of drama. Meanwhile Broudie himself acts the reluctant star, and his voice, which has an appealing plaintiveness on record, sounded rather frail in concert. But it will take more than a slightly wooden show to destroy the pleasures of hits like *Lucky You*, *Perfect* and *Change*, or to dent the irresistible sweep of the next single, *Sugar Coated Iceberg*.

JOHN STREET

Must try harder

Shed Seven
Forum, NW5

SINCE their emergence two years ago, Shed Seven have scrapped hard to win a place on the lower rungs of the post-Britpop elite. The York four-piece have yet to produce the defining anthem that would attract the maximum audience, but they have become frequent visitors to the singles chart — five appearances in the Top 40 this year alone, and nine in total.

This year, their tolerably successful second album, *A Maximum High*, confirmed Shed Seven's place in the lower order of top-flight British modern rockers. But, while the evidence of singles such as *Getting Better* and *On Standby* has suggested a guitar combo growing in confidence, this performance showed there is work to be done before the Sheds can feel secure.

Singer Rick Witter has the sullen, chiselled countenance *de rigueur* in rock bands since the time of Jagger the Younger. But his studied lack of communication with the audience beyond glib one-liners, coupled with a marked lack of any other visual focus on stage, made a solid display sadly uninvolving.

This was a shame, because at the moment when guitarist Paul Banks sparked up the rousing and rocking intro to their first hit, *Dolphin*, the setlist stretched ahead with strong potential. Witter was generally in fine voice and Banks mixed some attractive guitar textures, but such measured cool can be a dangerous thing.

The best reaction — and the first that stirred the stumps of those standing beyond the mosh-pit — did not come until their encore of *Getting Better*. Shed Seven's rise through the ranks is not to be underrated, but the applause that greeted this performance was little more than polite.

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☐ Moores Rowland, the chartered accountant, has produced a free advice sheet on whether workers are self-employed individuals or employed staff. The Inland Revenue and the Contributions Agency are clamping down and firms can find themselves liable for uncollected tax and National Insurance. For a copy call 0645 450400.

Sights set on silver service

By Jessica Gorst-Williams

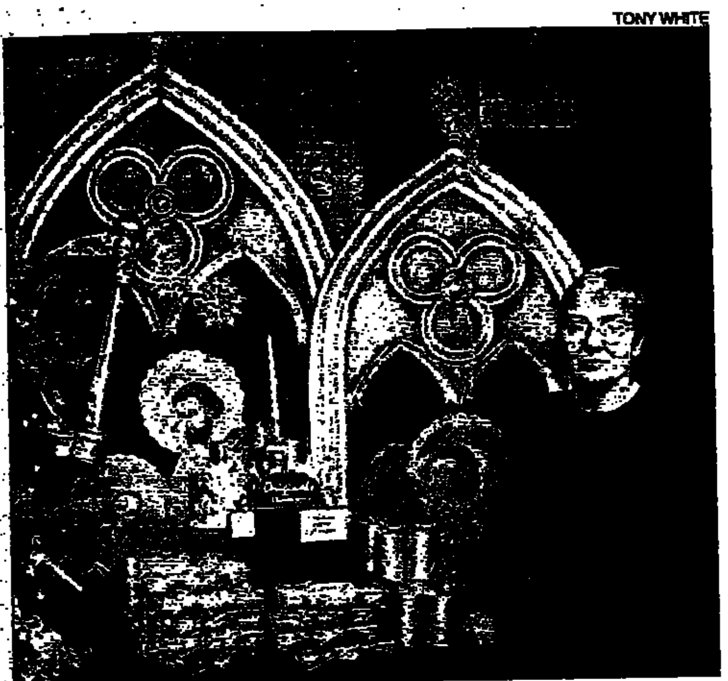
WHEN Betty Bass's husband and father died within four years, she switched from a failing shop selling and repairing watches to building up a business selling high-quality cutting instruments and cutlery.

Since Mrs Bass took over Breeds the Cutler in Tunbridge Wells, Kent, with her son, Rodney, in 1979 the stock has diversified to include an unusual range of quality china and glass, special kitchen equipment and Christmas presents.

Mrs Bass's father ran Sydney Smith, a jewellers in Tonbridge that had been started by her grandfather in 1904. Besides helping on some days, she had her own business engraving silver, jewellery, and trophies for a sports firm.

Then, while she was expecting her fourth child, her husband died from a heart attack. He was 43 and Mrs Bass was 35. She recalls: "I persuaded my father to let me take over his business, which by then was mainly watches and repair work. Four years later my father died and within two years the main watchmaker died, too, leaving the repairing side in a sorry state.

"One of my customers for the engraving had been Breeds the Cutler, which had been established in Tunbridge Wells since 1829. In 1979 the owner let me understand that he was looking for a buyer. I realised it was a family business not much different from ours."


TONY WHITE

Betty Bass, of Breeds, now also offers china, glass and Christmas items

She bought it with a 100 per cent bank loan. At that time the largest group of products included sporting, hunting, gardening and sheath knives. There were four full-time employees in 1979, but they retired. Now they just have part-time help. At first the two businesses ran together. In 1982, they sold the jewellers, including the shop freehold, which paid some debts.

Turnover in the Eighties boom years was running at about £300,000 a year. Their stock of cutlery had expanded, with high-quality continental products.

In 1989 concerns about fire hazards precipitated a move to a two-storey, 6,000 sq ft property with wide display windows fronting on to the main street near the station. This was in The Great Hall, a leading arcade. Mrs Bass's daughter, Deborah, set up a successful cookshop downstairs. They also expanded into porcelain tableware and set up a Christmas decoration department, which has doubled its turnover year by year.

Sales doubled to £750,000 in 1990. A year later a new shopping precinct opened at the top of the town, driving down turnover to about £400,000. Since then it has drifted back to nearer £300,000.

Three years ago they had to move to smaller premises in the same arcade, without the good frontage. They were dealt another blow when the Dillons bookshop and other businesses closed, so that fewer people were attracted to their side of the town. They still have to find £12,000 a year for business rates and the mortgage is some way from being paid off.

They hope that Christmas will bring some cheer. In the past two years Mrs Bass has been extending the Christmas business, mainly in and around London.

Consultancy tells how to fight winter blues

By Brian Collett

THOUSANDS of small businesses are being warned about damage from SAD — seasonal affective disorder. Clients of Office Angels, the recruitment consultancy, will receive a mailshot advising them to watch employees for the winter malaise characterised by depression, excessive sleeping and overeating.

Another symptom of SAD is restlessness leading to a change of job. Paul Jacobs, the consultancy's customer services director, said: "Some of the briskest movement of staff happens as Christmas approaches, and after Christmas there is a real rush."

Joanne King, operations director of Office Angels, said: "We have had increasing reports of SAD. It is clearly an issue that employers need to recognise and address. It doesn't just go away, at least not until the spring."

SAD victims are often seen as merely run-down physically or "generally fed up", Mr Jacobs said, though the condition appears to be related to restricted sunlight.

The warning is aimed especially at smaller companies, partly because the underperformance or sickness absence of one or two members of a small workforce can lower productivity disastrously. Furthermore, small businesses may lack the access to information that is enjoyed by large companies.

A suggested medical explanation of SAD is that the pineal gland reacts badly to poor light and restricts melatonin, the hormone that counters depression.

The consultancy is therefore advising employers to fit natural daylight bulbs. Other morale boosters, it says, could be staff outings and winter pay reviews. Employees themselves can help to ward off SAD by taking vigorous walks during work breaks, it says.

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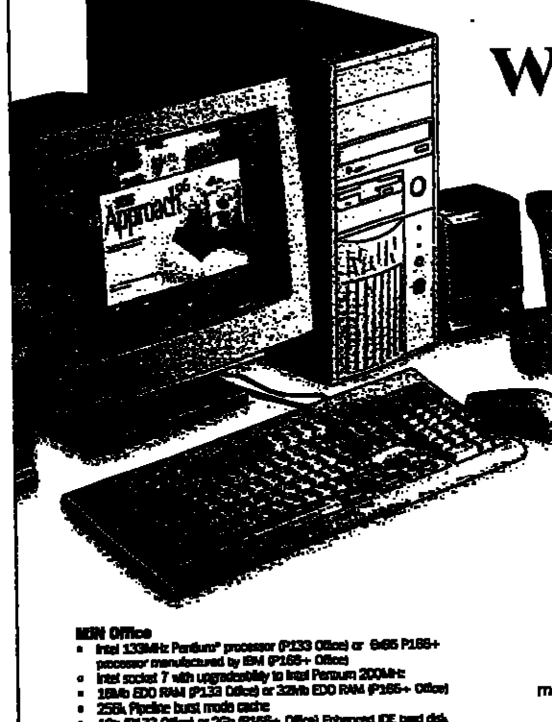

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Day two of our series on choosing the right type of school looks at the threat to grammar schools and the rise in awards for quality

The battle to stay the best

GRAMMAR schools are feeling vulnerable. Despite John Major's hopes of a grammar in every town, the schools' national association fears for the survival of the 161 fully selective schools.

In Labour and Liberal Democrat areas, the National Grammar Schools Association advises members to opt out to help to preserve themselves after the next general election. More than 100 have already done so.

Grammar schools will dominate the top of tomorrow's national league table of exam excellence and took 21 of the 32 places in the school inspectors' inaugural list of outstanding schools. But nowhere does a clash of political ideology impinge more on the shape of Britain's schools than over the selection of children.

SCHOOLS WEEK IN THE TIMES

A glimpse of the battle ahead can be found in the North West, where Labour-controlled Trafford council and its five selective schools are at loggerheads. The authority's determination to scrap them has encouraged moves towards grant-maintained status.

First to opt out of local authority control was Altrincham Grammar School for Boys. Its sister girls school is waiting for ministerial approval. Urmston Grammar School is due to receive the result of its parental vote today. Stretford Grammar sent parents their ballot papers last week and Sale Grammar is expected to vote soon.

Bryan Purvis, head of Altrincham Grammar School for Boys, said: "The chairman of education and the leader of the council have both said that if a Labour government is elected they will seek to reorganise education on a non-selective basis. Grant-maintained status means we become our own admissions authority and unless there is primary legislation prohibiting selection we have to be individually reorganised rather than the whole education authority being reorganised in one go."

Altrincham Boys uses an 11-plus test provided for 30 schools in the Grant-maintained Consortium for Admissions by the National Foundation for Education Research. In two-and-a-half hours on a single day, the children take a series of electronically-marked multiple choice tests and write an essay, with the top 30 per cent going to the grammar.

Mr Purvis said a shake-up in Trafford could cost as much as £4 million for new buildings. He added: "We have a totally different view of what we are aiming for. They are aiming for social engineering and I want the best for the individuals I have to look after."

Dave Acton, chairman of Trafford's education committee, said the £4 million figure had been "plucked out of the air" and that a comprehensive system would bring bureaucratic savings and local benefits.

Mr Acton added: "We want to move to a non-selective education system, but we would only do that after full consultation following a change of government. We would want to put forward proposals with the least disruption."

Nationally, Liberal Democrats oppose any further selection and would abolish grant-maintained status, returning all schools to Church or local authority status. It would then be left to the local authority to set admissions policies.

HOWARD BARLOW

Altrincham Girls' Grammar faces a fight with Trafford council to maintain its status

The national Labour leadership has moved to calm fears raised by tension in Trafford and elsewhere. It plans to make all secondaries either community, aided or foundation schools. The local education authority will set admission rules for community schools. Both the aided (Church schools) and foundation (ex-grant-maintained schools) will have to reach agreement with the local authority on admissions policy, except in the case of grammar schools.

A Labour spokesman said: "We have made separate provision for the 161 historic grammar schools. If parents wish to change the admissions system they will be able to have a ballot."

The Labour spokesman added: "The wording will be reasonable and fair. The reason we have not gone into long definitions is because the situation varies in different parts of the country." Most grammar schools find themselves in Labour or Liberal Democrat council areas. Essex, run by Labour with the Lib Dems, has withdrawn its subsidy from children using buses to travel to grammars. Lincolnshire County Council refused to run the 11-plus testing system and the grammar schools administer it themselves.

Buckinghamshire, the last remaining Conservative shire county, has 13 grammars. There are 40 in Kent, 15 in Lincolnshire, eight in Essex, seven in Gloucestershire, six in Berkshire and Birmingham, five in Warwickshire and four in Lancashire.

Margaret Dewar, chairman of the National Grammar Schools Association, said: "They say they will give parents the vote which will see grammar schools disappear because seven out of ten parents in those areas will be secondary modern parents. It is categorically clear their intention is to destroy grammar schools."

She believes the selection proposals in the White Paper are a fudge on Mr Major's vision.

Mrs Dewar added: "I would say grant-maintained status is a good way forward and 30 will go before the election. There will be a hell of a fight to save grammar schools, none of us have any intention of going quietly."

DAVID CHARTER

Awards that tell their own story

The league tables are not the only clues to a good school. The symbols and logos displayed near its entrance or on its stationery can tell their own story.

There is a range of awards that should reassure a prospective parent that the school is not heading for the rocks. A Charter Mark, the Investors in People (IIP) standard or a licence from the British Standards Institution (BSI) means that the school recognised by one of these bodies has voluntarily put itself through a complex assessment and improvement process designed to enhance the service it provides. Some head teachers even regard the process as a rehearsal for inspection by the Office for Standards in Education.

The Charter Mark is "the people's mark of approval" and it was launched by the Government in 1991 to improve service quality in the public sector. In 1995, 224 Charter Marks were awarded, of which 18 went to schools. One of them is Thomas Telford, a City Technology College (CTC) in Telford, Shropshire. Michael Douch, deputy head, said: "We felt we should aim for some form of external recognition. We chose the Charter Mark for two reasons. First, it's a prestigious national award. Second, we wanted something which acknowledges the relationship between an organisation and its customers, in our case the students we serve."

Charter Marks are hard to get. It took Thomas Telford three attempts. Only then could the school demonstrate its strength in all nine of the areas that Charter Mark focuses on: service standards and performance, information and openness, consultation and choice, courtesy and helpfulness, putting things right, value for money, user satisfaction, measurable or demonstrable improvements in service and planned enhancements to services.

Brooke Weston CTC, Corby, Northamptonshire, chose to apply for ISO EN 9002, a BSI licence. More than 60 per cent of British companies are registered with BSI but only a few schools. "We were looking for a way of further improving the way in which we handled our 'clients' and saw working towards accreditation by BSI as a way of doing this," said Gareth Newman, principal. Among other changes Brooke Weston enhanced the way it communicated with parents, with reports every eight weeks, flexible access to staff and even to lessons and many more meetings than is statutorily required.

Investors in People (IIP) is the most widespread form of quality recognition among schools; 328 schools hold the standard. The emphasis is on staff development in the widest sense. In the case of Leigh CTC, Dartford, Kent, satisfying the IIP standard meant changing its appraisal and staff development procedures. All staff, ancillary and teaching, are now included on an equal basis. There were also other problems, such as poor communication between and among staff on a split site, that had to be resolved before the college was recognised as an Investor in People in March 1994.

Ambitious schools don't wait for Ofsted to assess progress

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Closing date for applications: Tuesday 26th November 1996.

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هكذا من الاصل

When more means less

Prisoners will spend less time behind bars under the new crime Bill, says David Thomas

The new get-tough crime Bill could release convicts like Ronnie Barker in *Porridge* sooner

The controversial Crime (Sentences) Bill is now before MPs. It manifests the Government's intention to get tough on crime. But close analysis shows that in reality it does the opposite. Virtually all offenders sentenced to custody under the Bill will spend less time in prison than they would under the existing law.

This is the effect of Clause 21, which is central to the introduction of "honesty in sentencing". The clause provides that a court must "secure *that the term imposed corresponds to the appropriate proportion of the term which* the court would have *imposed*" before the Bill became law. The "appropriate proportion" is the period the offender would have actually spent in prison under the sentence. In the case of those sentenced to less than four years — 90 per cent of those sent to prison — that amounts to half of the sentence

So in future, a judge will have to say: "Before the Crime (Sentences) Act became law, I would have sentenced you to three years; it follows that I must now sentence you to 18 months."

The offender benefits from this change in two ways: first, or she will be entitled under Clause 9 of the Bill to earn remission — "early release days" — at the rate of six days for each month of the sentence. Those sentenced to 18 months will earn up to 3½ months' remission and can hope to be released after 14½ months.

Secondly, under existing law a prisoner's sentence is not finished on release. For the remainder of the sentence he or she is "at risk"; if an offence is committed before the end of the sentence as pronounced by the court, a prisoner can be returned to prison to serve the balance of the sentence, in addition to any new sentence imposed for the later offence.

Under the Bill, this liability disappears. The offender will be released subject to a "release supervision order" (provided the sentence is at least 12 months) but the supervision order will last for 15 per cent of the sentence or three months, whichever is the greater. A man or woman sentenced to 18 months under the Bill will be under a release supervision order for only three months from the date of release. A prisoner who offends during that period can be ordered to serve a period equivalent to the period of supervision.

All short-term prisoners (those sentenced to less than four years under the present law) will be better off under the Bill, therefore. A man or woman sentenced to 12 months today will serve six months, and have a further six months "at risk" after release. Under the Bill, the sentence will be six months; he or she will be able to earn up to 36 early-release days and may expect to be released after serving four months and 24 days and not qualify for a release supervision order as the sentence is less than 12 months and, therefore, have no "at risk" period at all.

A prisoner who would today be sentenced to two years does almost as well. Under present law, he or she will serve 12 months and be at risk for 12 months and on reoffending may be ordered to serve whatever remained of the original sentence on the day of the later offence, which could be anything up to 12 months.

But under the new proposals, the sentence will be 12 months, and the prisoner can hope to earn up to 72 early-release days — equivalent to nearly 2½ months' remission. If earned, he or she will be out of prison after 9½ months, and the release supervision order will last for three months. He or she will be liable to be returned to prison only through reoffending within that period, and the maximum period of return will be three months.

So, will the leniency of the new system of "honest sentencing" be balanced by the greater severity of the mandatory sentences? It seems unlikely. The Bill will provide a mandatory sentence of seven years for offenders convicted on a third occasion of dealing in class A drugs; but such offenders are extremely rare.

The Home Office cannot provide any statistics of their existence; a review of decisions of the Court of Appeal has failed to trace a single example; and out of a group of more than 100 barristers practising daily in the criminal courts, only one could remember acting for a defendant who would have qualified for the mandatory sentence.

The mandatory three-year sentence for persistent burglars will not have an impact for several years. To qualify, a burglar will have to be convicted on three separate occasions of burglaries being committed after the Act comes into force.

For example, a burglar aged 30, who already has ten convictions for burglary representing perhaps as many as 100 separate offences, will find that his slate has been wiped clean under the Bill.

To qualify for a mandatory sentence, he or she will have to commit a series of offences, be convicted and sentenced for those, and repeat the process twice. This is likely to take at least five years, if not more.

That leaves the Bill's automatic life sentence for those convicted a second time of a "serious offence". The Government claims that in 1994, 207 offenders convicted of a second serious offence did not receive life sentences.

No details of these cases have been published, but it is certain that none of them worried the Attorney-General enough to make him refer the case to the Court of Appeal and ask that court to impose a life sentence.

Only two of the cases referred by the Attorney-General in the relevant period involve offenders who would qualify for an automatic life sentence, and in neither did he ask the Court of Appeal to pass a life sentence.

It seems likely that the automatic life sentence will prove as much of a scarecrow as the rest of the Bill. As most offenders who will be caught by the automatic life sentence will not be judged to be a danger to the public — they have not been so judged by courts up to now, and the Attorney-General has not disagreed with the courts' assessments — most will be released from prison at about the same time as they would have been freed under the present law.

● *Dr David Thomas, QC, is editor of* Current Sentencing Practice

No need to act on witness payments

COUNSEL

DAVID PANNICK QC

The Lord Chancellor's Department has issued a consultation paper inviting comments (by December 31) on the Government's provisional view that "legislation is needed to deal with the threat which payments to witnesses pose to the proper administration of justice".

The paper explains that if witnesses are paid (or offered payments) by newspapers for their stories, they may omit something from their evidence in court in order to enhance the value of their story for the front page, or they may exaggerate their court testimony to improve the headlines. Even if the evidence of the witness is untainted by the fact of payment, juries may doubt the veracity of testimony given in such circumstances, thus impeding the administration of justice.

These are powerful arguments. They have led the Government to suggest that the Contempt of Court Act 1981 should be amended to proscribe payments to witnesses, or that a specific criminal offence should be created. Whichever option is adopted, the Government suggests that the prohibitions would apply once criminal proceedings were imminent or pending, and if there were a risk of prejudice to those proceedings. The law would prohibit any payment of money, and "any gift or consideration".

The consultation paper addresses an old problem. After the trial of Ian Brady and Myra Hindley in 1966, the Attorney-General told the House of Commons that he had decided not to bring proceedings against a newspaper which was alleged to have paid a prosecution witness a retainer and offered him a larger sum contingent on a guilty verdict. The Attorney-General said the Government would "examine these problems with a view to making such changes in the law as may prove necessary". Nothing was done.

In 1974, the Phillimore Committee on Contempt of Court suggested that the prevalence of payments to witnesses should be investigated, with a view to considering whether legislation was needed. No action was taken. During the trial of Jeremy Thorpe and others in 1979, the evidence of a prosecution witness, Peter Bessell, was discredited in the eyes of the jury because *The Sunday Telegraph* had agreed to pay him an additional fee of £25,000 for his story if Mr Thorpe were to be convicted.

No action was taken, except for the Attorney-General prosecuting (unsuccessfully) the *New Statesman* for revealing what the members of the jury had thought about Mr Bessell and other witnesses. Earlier this year, when dismissing the appeal by Rosemary West against her conviction for murder, Lord Chief Justice Taylor said that the issue of media payments to witnesses should be reviewed because "in some circumstances it could put justice at risk".

There are three reasons why the concern about payments to witnesses in 1996 should receive the same response as it received in 1966, 1974 and 1979. First, there is no evidence that payments to witnesses pose any greater threat to the administration of justice than they have done in the past. This is partly because the code applied by the Press Complaints Commission prohibits such payments other than in exceptional circumstances.

Secondly, the Phillimore report correctly pointed out that there would be "difficulties in framing legislation". As the report explained: "Clearly it would be going too far to prohibit all offers to witnesses, especially those which were not contingent upon the outcome of the case. Much would depend on the size and circumstances of the offer." Parliament would not wish to impede the performance of the journalist's function.

Suppose, while the Matrix Churchill criminal trial was pending in 1992, a journalist had offered to buy lunch for Alan Clark, MP, in order to obtain background information for publication once the trial had ended?

Thirdly, a newspaper could well be acting in contempt of court under existing law if (while a criminal trial is pending) it agrees to pay a substantial fee to a witness for an exclusive story, especially if the amount of the fee depends on whether the defendant is convicted. Section 6(c) of the Contempt of Court Act 1981 prohibits "conduct intended to impede or prejudice the administration of justice".

If it is, or should have been, obvious from the circumstances that the fee arrangement would impede or prejudice the administration of justice (as in the Peter Bessell example), the newspaper (if prosecuted by the Attorney-General) would probably be convicted and punished, since "intention" is distinct from motive and can be proved by the strong probability of the mischief occurring.

The Lord Chancellor's Department should abandon the plan for new legislation unless and until it is clearly established that there is a substantial problem which existing law cannot remedy. The reality is that over the past 30 years some newspapers have misbehaved in relation to sensational cases, and the Attorney-General of the day has not been willing to test the scope of the law.

● *The author is a practising barrister and a Fellow of All Soul's College, Oxford*

INNS AND OUTS

Forced out to lunch

FORGET the 48-hour maximum working week. The real impact of last week's European Court of Justice ruling, according to Eversheds, will be on the working lunch.

Employers may be be forced to kick workaholic staff who never leave their desks out of the factory or office and make them take a break.

Martin Hopkins, an employment law expert at Eversheds, says that in the short term the 48-hour limit will not really affect the working practices of many UK employers.

But bosses will have to pay heed to "rigid rules regarding rest breaks, night shifts and the guaranteed three weeks' annual leave, rising to four in 1999. Considering the working habits prevalent nowadays, the new directive poses the interesting scenario of bosses forcing employees to take a rest or paid holiday."

No mark up

NO WONDER high street solicitors have been so badly hit by plummeting fees. A conveyancing work survey on 30 Liverpool law firms by the Liverpool Law Society shows that the majority of conveyancing work is still being carried out by partners. Fees of as little as £58 an hour are being charged for handling that least-profitable work — a sale with a mortgage.

David Swaffield, the society's non-contentious business committee chairman, says in its magazine *Bulletin*: "The results provide stark evidence that many of our members are receiving a very low level of remuneration for work which, to our clients, is of fundamental importance."

Mr Swaffield, who has called for a special meeting on the issue, adds: "The results of the survey also lay to rest the commonly held perception that conveyancing is usually carried out by unqualified clerks."

PEOPLE are keenly waiting to see what the Law Commission will say about corruption in public life. But the commission is emphasising — contrary to Gary Slapper's article last week in The Times *— that it has not yet drawn up proposals, and, specifically, not yet decided whether to make proposals about MPs. A report is expected in the new year.*

Getting together

PROSECUTION barristers are being urged by the charity Victim Support to seek to introduce themselves to rape victims before trials begin to help them to feel more at ease.

The call comes after a detailed debriefing of 12 rape victims by the group, as part of a research project to determine how they are treated by the criminal justice system. Seven of them said the CPS, and in particular prosecution barristers, were too distant.

The report says: "This was felt all the more keenly because the defendants appeared to have such a close relationship with the defence barrister. This fact, combined with a desire for information and guidance on legal issues, exacerbated many of the women's feelings of anxiety and betrayal."

Into the future

THE House of Lords finally discarded its quill-pen image last week when it entered the cyber age by putting its judgments on the Internet. The Bar Council is gearing itself up for a similar launch.

It has established a working party to assess the best way of registering a domain on the Internet. The proposed Bar directory will display information about the Bar Council, the circuit, chambers and barristers. Only a handful of chambers have set up Web sites.

SCRIVENOR

The Times Law Awards 1996

THERE IS still time to enter the competition for *The Times* Law Awards 1996 with One Essex Court and win up to £3,000. Students are invited to submit up to 1,000 words on "The Law Lords in the 90s — a new Supreme Court?" The first prize is £3,000, the second £2,000 and the third £1,000. Three runners-up will receive £250.

The essays will be judged by a panel led by Lord Mackay of Clashfern, the Lord Chancellor, and the winning entry will be published in *The Times*. Further details available from: 0171-583 2000. Closing date: December 6.

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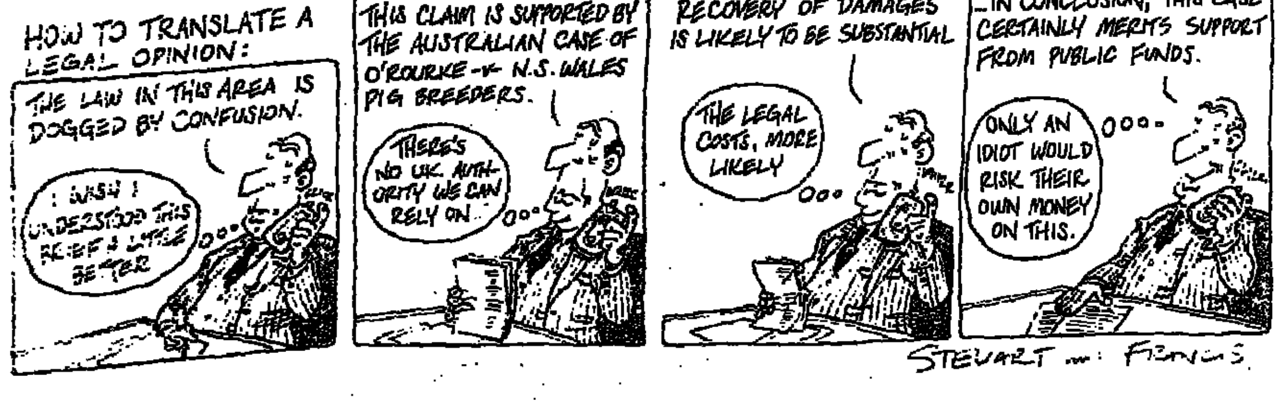
QUEEN'S COUNSEL
HOW TO TRANSLATE A LEGAL OPINION:
THE LAW IN THIS AREA IS DOGGED BY CONFUSION.
I WISH I UNDERSTOOD THIS BRIEF A LITTLE BETTER
THIS CLAIM IS SUPPORTED BY THE AUSTRALIAN CASE OF O'ROURKE -v- N.S. WALES PIG BREEDERS.
THERE'S NO UK AUTHORITY WE CAN RELY ON.
RECOVERY OF DAMAGES IS LIKELY TO BE SUBSTANTIAL
THE LEGAL COSTS, MORE LIKELY
...IN CONCLUSION, THIS CASE CERTAINLY MERITS SUPPORT FROM PUBLIC FUNDS.
ONLY AN IDIOT WOULD RISK THEIR OWN MONEY ON THIS.
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LEADING PROPERTY FIRM **£27-55,000**
Widely regarded as one of the clear market leaders in the property sector, this medium sized City firm now seeks lawyers at the 1-5 year level to join its busy practice to advise on the full range of mainstream property matters. You should have relevant experience from a strong property department within a recognised City or provincial practice. (Ref.8273)

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INTERNATIONAL CORPORATE **TO £80,000**
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For in-house vacancies please contact Lisa Hicks on 0171-377 0510 (0171-735 5548 evenings/weekends), or write to us at **Zarak Macrae Brenner**, Recruitment Consultants, 37 Sun Street, London EC2M 2PY. Confidential fax 0171-247 5174. E-mail andrewc@zmb.co.uk Website http://www.zmb.co.uk/

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*For further information in complete confidence, please contact **June Mesrié** (on 0171-405 6062 (0181-442 0841 evenings/weekends) or write to her at QD Commerce & Industry, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JH, Confidential fax 0171-831 6394. E-mail june@qdrec.demon.co.uk. (not encoded)*

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Ref 34355 - Philip Boynton

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Ref 34350 - Philip Boynton

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Very successful, medium-sized City firm seeks experienced specialist to spearhead the development of its pensions practice; rare opportunity.
Ref 34402 - Philip Boynton

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Several excellent firms are actively looking for high-quality commercial-property lawyers with 0-4 years' pqe. Window of opportunity.
Ref 34292 - Niru Chandra

Corporate
Corporate lawyer with 0-2 years' pqe is required by progressive medium-sized firm. Confidence in dealing with clients essential.
Ref 34358 - Niru Chandra

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Shipping lawyer with 3 years' pqe is sought by specialist City firm. Excellent opportunity to assist in practice-development.
Ref 33703 - Niru Chandra

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INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

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Matthew Rea looks at civil justice in France and England while **Adam Sage** explains why Europe has trouble in stamping out sleaze

England is a model of reform

EUROSCEPTICS are very much in the ascendant in politics, but in the courts reformers are embracing the Continent with relish. Lord Woolf's plans to change the landscape of civil justice in England and Wales seem to borrow much from the French Nouveau Code de Procedure Civile. His measures to reduce the delay and cost of litigation, his proposals for single court-appointed experts, for an identical procedural code in all courts, and for case management by the judges, appear to be aimed at bringing our Anglo-Saxon system more into line with our continental cousins.

But it might surprise Lord Woolf to learn that the French are also looking at changing their system. Last month solicitors who have the monopoly on rights of audience in the French Courts of Appeal met in Colmar, near Strasbourg, to discuss civil justice in England, particularly the aspects of it which encourage so many settlements.

The conference was organised by the Chambre Nationale des Avoués and was attended by about 350 people, including judges. It seems that the French civil and commercial courts are overburdened with litigation. Last year the Court of Appeal heard about 125,000 civil and commercial appeals, compared with about 600 heard by the Court of Appeal in England. However, in England, fewer than 1 per cent of all proceedings issued end up being resolved after a trial. In France, roughly 80 per cent go to a full hearing. The French lawyers wanted to know what aspects of our system encouraged such a high proportion of settlements so they could ascertain which aspects could be introduced to try to alleviate the pressure on their courts.

The biggest single factor in anybody's mind when they embark on litigation in England is costs, and it is costs that will force them to consider every possibility for settlement. Of course, there are other factors. For instance, there is our "cards on the table" procedure, encouraging openness between the parties so that they each know at an early stage what case they have to meet. They can then make a realistic assessment of their chances of success or failure. But it is the cost of litigation which, above all, forces parties to settle their differences. If you have a £25,000 claim and it costs you £25,000 in legal fees to take it to a full trial (by no means unusual) and it costs your opposite party the same amount to defend it, the fact that if you lose you will have lost not only the amount claimed but also a further £50,000 in costs for both sides, persuades you to avoid the risks of going to trial and instead accept a reduced settlement beforehand.

'The cost of litigation forces parties to settle'

The French system is much cheaper. Costs of £10,000 for taking a dispute all the way to trial would be exceptional. There is also a limited requirement for the loser to pay the winning party's costs. This means that it is very much more affordable in France to have your dispute determined by the State, and perhaps explains the strong reluctance to reach a compromise.

In England, where costs are such an important factor in encouraging settlement, it is essential that the parties, rich or poor, individuals or multinational corporations, can litigate on an equal footing and can have equal bargaining power to negotiate a compromise. Therefore, legal aid, conditional fees, legal-expenses insurance, and encouragement to litigate without lawyers are all important factors in trying to equalise bargaining power.

I AM A FRENCH LAWYER - MIND IF I TAKE NOTES?
Avocat
I'M AN ENGLISH LAWYER - MIND IF I TAKE NOTES?
LITIGE
KenPyne

There are arguments that the English system has not gone far enough with measures designed to equalise the parties' bargaining power, particularly for middle-income families fighting insurance companies. Surely that is the area which any proposals for civil justice reform should be concentrated on. We might therefore have some lessons to learn from the French. Making the system quicker and cheaper might only result in fewer settlements, a rougher form of justice and overburdened courts too costly for the taxpayer.

● *The author is a commercial litigation partner with Dawson & Co.*

THE FRENCH IN ENGLAND

THE IDEA that the French and the English legal systems have much to learn from each other in the area of civil procedure lies behind a joint meeting of the Franco-British Lawyers Society and the Bar European Group which is being held at Lincoln's Inn tonight, *Ian Hunter, QC, writes.*

The speaker is Guy Danet, a former President of the Paris Bar and a towering figure in the legal profession in France. He is to speak on "The Advocacy Revolution: are we going French?" What will emerge from his speech is the extent to which reforms in both countries in civil procedure are leading to a convergence of approach.

● *Meeting 5pm, Old Hall, Lincoln's Inn. All are welcome. A reception and dinner will be held afterwards. Further details from Helen Matha on 0171-813 8000.*

The magnificent seven's dream

They are respected, emulated and feared. They enjoy the sort of regard that would make British lawyers wonder if they share the same profession. But the seven European magistrates who met in Geneva recently to launch a book on their fight against corruption are unhappy and frustrated.

Hindered by archaic national laws that cannot keep pace with international finance, they are unable to check the sleaze which is engulfing Europe, they say. Tax havens, computers and lack of political willpower make it difficult, if not impossible, to track down and prosecute the corrupt as they move their funds around the globe, the magistrates argue.

The seven are Bernard Bertossa, Attorney-General in Geneva, Edmondo Bruti Liberati, a member of Italy's Higher Magistrature Council, Gherardo Colombo, a prosector in Milan, Benoit Dejemeppe, a prosecutor in Brussels, Baltasar Garzón Real, an investigating magistrate working in Madrid, Carlos Jimenez Villarejo, a prosecutor, also in Madrid, and Renaud Van Ruymbeke, a French investigating judge based in Rennes.

Their roles vary from country to country but they are all part of the investigative judiciary that oversees criminal inquiries in continental Europe, and they all specialise in fraud cases.

Without exception, they are household names in their countries, enjoying the sort of public esteem first heaped upon the Milanese judges who began their anti-corruption drive in Italy five years ago.

But if the seven themselves appear to have few doubts about their abilities, they are far from confident about their efficiency. In a book of interviews with the French journalist Denis Robert, all make the same point — that national boundaries undermine the fight against corruption in an age of new technology.

M Van Ruymbeke explains that in a typical French corruption case, a company seeking, for instance, to build a new school will offer an under-the-table commission to the politician responsible for deciding who should be given the contract. The commission will come from the firm's slush fund, held in a Swiss bank account in the name of a fictitious Panamanian company, and the politician will receive the money into a similarly anonymous account.

But if M Van Ruymbeke wants details of the account holders, the suspects will make a series of appeals claiming that the Swiss legal authorities should not co-operate with their French counterparts because of differences in legislation or procedural errors.

Given the complexity of Swiss banking laws and lack of international co-operation, it can take "two to three years" to get an answer, M Van Ruymbeke says.

"Meanwhile, the people who launder drug or corruption money have faxes and computers and shift their money from tax haven to tax haven in less than 24 hours," he says.

'Computers and tax havens make it hard to track down corruption'

Mr Bertossa accepts that his country often slows down international sleaze investigations, but says that the same accusation can be made against England. "The English drive us mad," he says. "They are incapable of blocking an account and they don't collaborate for reasons inherent in their legal system, which is even more archaic than ours."

In a statement issued to coincide with the publication of their book, the magistrates argue that only the creation of a "European judicial space" will enable them to stamp out corruption.

They want to be able to communicate directly, "without interference from the executive or recourse to diplomatic channels"; in other words, they want the right to ignore European boundaries and thus cut out the sort of procedural wrangles that can add years to an inquiry.

Their appeal is unlikely to be heard, at least in the short term. Even countries not known for their Euroscepticism, such as France, have little stomach for what would be a highly sensitive political move. But in the long term, the magistrates believe public opinion will follow their lead. "If you hamper co-operation between judges in corruption cases, you hamper it for drug trafficking, the Mafia and all forms of organised financial crime," M Van Ruymbeke says.

GARFIELD ROBBINS - IN-HOUSE

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Garfield Robbins has recently established a specialist division to handle the recruitment of lawyers into commerce and industry. This is in response to a significant increase in the number of instructions from clients within industry, in addition to UK and international banks. Our clients are varied and include the leading European, US and Asian investment banks and a substantial number of FTSE 100 companies, as well as newer ventures in the multimedia, biotechnology, construction, retail, transport and telecommunications industries. These opportunities exist in London, throughout the UK and overseas.

We have also seen an increase in clients offering temporary contracts, usually to assist with particular projects, in both industry and banks. There is a strong likelihood of the role becoming permanent with the vast majority of these positions. Many opportunities lead to unique experience which is valued by other employers.

Once instructions are received from clients, we meet with them at their offices - we consider this essential to obtain a detailed job description and profile, as well as to learn more about the individual culture of the company.

A substantial number of our in-house positions are not advertised but on registering with Garfield Robbins, candidates will be given a detailed list of all suitable positions. Importantly, every candidate is given an undertaking that their details will not be submitted to any client without their express permission.

If you are considering a move in-house or would just like some informal advice on a strictly confidential basis, then please contact our in-house consultants, Andrea Melnick or Alison Barrett.

CO.CO/INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY - IN-HOUSE
1 to 3 Years Qualified ***to £62,000***
Our client, part of an established group with a £20million turnover in the production and distribution of beauty products, is seeking its first in-house lawyer to advise on a broad range of work including intellectual property, company/commercial and employment work and to perform a general in-house legal function. Excellent opportunity to remain a generalist in an expanding company, working within a relaxed and enjoyable environment. Ref: T11299J.

PRIVATE CLIENT/TAX
2 to 6 Years Qualified ***to £65,000***
We are currently acting for two reputable City institutions who are seeking lawyers with between two and six years post qualification experience in private client work. Candidates must have a good understanding of off-shore trusts, tax planning, inheritance tax and CGT, and international exposure is useful. The work will be wide-ranging, involving advising public companies based in the UK as well as individuals domiciled abroad. Prospects for the right candidates are unlimited. Ref: T11268J.

CORPORATE FINANCE
NQ to 3 years ***£45,000***
A leading international merchant and investment bank requires junior lawyers to join its Corporate Finance team. They are particularly interested to see details of candidates who have worked for major City firms, with a strong academic background combined with an outgoing personality. A high level of numeracy is important. An excellent opportunity to move at this level. Ref: T9596E.

PROJECT FINANCE
1 to 5 years qualified ***£80,000***
The International Projects Department of a prestigious merchant bank is seeking an additional member for their project finance team. Work will include providing advice to governments, project sponsors and contractors in all aspects of project finance and related fields. Career prospects are excellent for the right individual. Requirements include experience in either project finance, international banking or capital industry, combined with excellent interpersonal skills. Ref: T10185E.

LONDON: Contact **Andrea Melnick or Alison Barrett** (both qualified lawyers) on **0171 417 1400** or write to them at the **London** office for further information in complete confidence.
Evenings/weekends 0171 431 5860. Confidential fax: 0171 417 1444. Email: andream@garfieldrobbins.co.uk

SHORT SPL TERM
SPECIAL PROJECT LAWYER

CORPORATE
2-4 year qualified solicitor sought by this international firm, to be based in their London office. Contract will be for 3-6 months and candidates should have a strong corporate background with experience gained in a City firm environment. ***Ref: 31949***

IT/IP
Solicitor/barrister, with a minimum of 3 years' pqe, is sought by a regional office of this national firm. Contract is for 3-6 months. Candidates should have up-to-date experience in both IP and IT, ideally both contentious and non-contentious. ***Ref: 32578***

PROFESSIONAL NEGLIGENCE
Leading insurance group seeks a solicitor/barrister with specialist professional negligence experience, ideally in relation to solicitors and valuers. Candidates should have 4-7 years' post-qualification experience. Position is to cover for a maternity leave to start immediately. ***Ref: 32216***

BANKING
Non-contentious banking lawyer sought by this City firm for a 3 month contract. Candidates should have a minimum of 3 years' pqe and will be working alongside a corporate partner on transactional issues. Immediate start. ***Ref: 31977***

NON FEE-EARNING/CORPORATE
City based leading UK law firm seeks 3-10 year qualified solicitor barrister for 6 month contract. Ideally looking for experience of company/commercial matters as well as precedent drafting, and marketing. ***Ref: 33557***

JUNIOR COMMERCIAL
2-4 year qualified solicitor/barrister needed to join major US leisure group for 6 month contract. Work will be broad ranging, including commercial contracts, marketing, litigation, and competition law. Candidates must have good interpersonal skills, be a team player and PC literate. ***Ref: 33166***

COMMERCIAL
3-4 year qualified solicitor/barrister needed for 1 year contract with international company in their London office. Candidates must have heavyweight in-house experience and be able to assist on a broad range of commercial matters. ***Ref: 33502***

JUNIOR COMMERCIAL LITIGATION
Leading City firm require 1-2 year qualified solicitor to join busy litigation department. Prerequisites include excellent academics, City firm background and broad-ranging "hands on" experience. Start as soon as possible for 1 year contract. ***Ref: 32733***

SECURITIES
Well-established finance house seeks an experienced banking lawyer, with securities experience, to cover for a 6-9 month maternity leave, to start in December. Financial services and/or investment banking experience would be useful. ***Ref: 32577***

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY
Major international law firm require 3-8 year qualified solicitor/barrister to assist with heavy workload for 3-6 months. Contract to start as soon as possible. ***Ref: 30176***

*For further information please call Emma Hopkins or Nicky Rutherford-Jones on 0171-405 6062 (0181-540 2381 or 0171-350 0682 evenings/weekends) or write to us at **Special Project Lawyer, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JH.** Confidential fax: 0171 831 6394.*

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Basic Facts
Some candidates prepare themselves for interviews with a thoroughness that others would have reserved for their final examinations. They imagine serious shortcomings in their knowledge of the law and worry that their experience is inadequate. In their anxiety, they can overlook the need to know a few basic facts.

We heard a story recently of a candidate who was asked by the interviewer about her salary. She sat there, mouth open, her face reddening, desperately trying to remember the figure. Seizing her handbag, she rummaged through it looking for her latest payslip. A good interview was ruined. There are other examples. In-house lawyers sometimes fail to remember their company's turnover. Solicitors in practice can forget, even approximately, how much they are billing.

Why should knowledge of such mundane facts be so important? Partly because they are the kind of facts interviewers expect you to know. Partly because lack of such knowledge reveals an unworldliness that has become unacceptable in commercial practices.

There is not much that candidates can do before an interview to improve their knowledge of the law, but they can ensure that they know the essential commercial and financial features of their organisation: its strategy, its principal problems and its aims. What is confidential cannot be revealed, of course, but just knowing this information will enable candidates to handle the interview more confidently.

Michael Chambers

INDUSTRY & BANKING *Sonya Rayner*

Intellectual Property: West London
Opportunity for junior lawyer to join int'l consumer goods co. Role will primarily involve maintenance of trademarks. General familiarity with IP req'd although some employment & gen comm expce would be useful.

Local Government: Central London
Solr with c. 2 yrs' pqe to join legal dept of local authority. You will deal with debt recovery and carry out housing policies which will involve housing related litigation.

Professional Negligence: City
Opportunity for Solr with 4-5 yrs' pqe to join legal office of major insurance company on a short term contract. Previous expce of contentious valuation work essential. Prior expce working for mortgage lenders desirable.

Contracts Manager: South East
Opportunity for lawyer with 2-5 years' commercial experience to join international services co. Work will consist of drafting & reviewing a range of commercial contracts. Must have sound business acumen.

Intellectual Property: Central London
Excellent opportunity for Solr or Barr with 1-5 years' experience which must include IP/IT to join high profile int'l organisation. Attractive salary.

Legal Counsel: South East
Excellent opportunity for Solr or Barr with at least 5 yrs' commercial expce to join leading computer company, be responsible for its UK operations and be part of the management team. Expce of IP would be useful.

PRIVATE PRACTICE SOUTH: *Helen Mills, Alicen Shepherd*
LONDON: *David Woolfson, Simon Anderson* NORTH: *Suki Bahra* MIDLANDS: *Nimisha Gosrani*

Partnership Positions
We have been assisting partners seeking a career move for over 20 years now and are regularly placing several partners each month.

Banking Litigation: City
Leading City banking firm seeks lit assistant with some banking lit expce. The position would ideally suit a 1-2 yr qual solr but exceptional NQs may also be considered.

Company/Commercial: City
Medium-sized practice (50-60 partners) seeks 2-5 year qual solr for broad, mainly private co caseload. Working hours shorter than some of firm's larger competitors.

Litigation Partner: West End
High profile med-sized firm with institutional & comm'l client base seeks bright and outgoing senior litigator - pref with established client following - to join as partner.

NQ Tax and Pensions: City
Leading City practice seeks 0-1 year qualified solrs for its well-known corporate tax and pensions depts. Firm offers training and work of highest quality.

Construction Litigation: City
Prestigious City firm with high profile int'l client base seeks outstanding construction lawyer with c. 2 yrs' expce to handle challenging mix of cont and non-cont work.

Commercial Property: Holborn
Thriving med-sized firm with substantial property dept seeks solrs at both 1-3 yr qual level and senior asst level. High quality sales, acquisitions and development work.

IT or soft IP: Berkshire
Solr, 2-4 yrs' pqe, with IT & IP expce sought by this progressive, impressive firm. Superb opportunity to shine.

Commercial Property Partner: Berks
Prestigious firm needs partner for UK and overseas clients. Following useful, marketing skills essential.

Pensions: Birmingham
Solrs required at any level (including NQ) for highly successful pensions team at this pre-eminent firm.

Employment: Leeds
One of the top employment firms in the country now has a magnificent opportunity for a 3-6 yr qualified solicitor.

LONDON ≈ CONTINENTAL

London & Continental Railways Limited (LCR) is the consortium chosen by the Government to design, build, finance and operate the Channel Tunnel Rail Link (CTRL), to be built between St Pancras Station in London and the Channel Tunnel, and to run the UK arm of Eurostar. The Eurostar service has fast become a household name offering high speed passenger rail travel between London, Paris and Brussels. Union Railways Limited has acted as promoter of the CTRL and will continue to play a key role during the construction phase. It will be responsible for entering into all of the required building contracts as LCR's agent. LCR is preparing for a major debt and equity capital raising by 1998 to build the CTRL. It is currently building on increased passenger numbers and revenues in the Eurostar business and is planning the construction phase of the CTRL. With the Eurostar legal team now well established, there are two exciting new opportunities for lawyers to join this substantial organisation as part of its group in-house legal function.

eurostar

Commercial Lawyer
NQ - 6 months' pqe

Eurostar (UK) wishes to appoint a junior lawyer with up to six months' commercial experience. The role will include advising on a broad range of commercial agreements including distribution, licensing, agency, employment and IT/IP. There will also be the opportunity to advise on and manage litigation. A sound academic background is essential and applications are welcome from both commercial litigators and non-contentious lawyers. The ability to speak at least one other European language is desirable and there will be genuine opportunities to use these skills and to travel.

union RAILWAYS

Construction Lawyer
3-5 years' pqe

Union Railways wishes to appoint an experienced construction lawyer with between 3 and 5 years' mainstream construction experience gained either in-house or in private practice. The role will require a sound knowledge of construction law and practice and will include advising on a broad range of high value construction contracts, including both civil engineering and building contracts and their supporting bonds and warranties.

Both positions offer exceptional opportunities to join a young group of companies at an early stage in their development. Excellent training facilities are available and highly competitive salary packages will be offered to the successful candidates.

For further information in complete confidence please contact our advising consultants, ***Lisa Hicks*** *and* ***Andrew Caulfield****, at* ***Zarak Macrae Brenner*** *on* ***0171-377 0510*** *(0171-735 5548 evenings/weekends). Alternatively write to them at Zarak Macrae Brenner, 37 Sun Street, London, EC2M 2PY.* ***E-mail lisa@zmb.co.uk*** *This assignment is being handled exclusively by ZMB. All direct and third party applications will be forwarded to them.*

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The firm needs more high-calibre partners to handle an ever-increasing volume of top quality work. You will be a partner or senior assistant in private practice or a senior corporate lawyer in a bank or major corporate with top-rated technical and commercial skills. A following is not necessary; but an established track record in corporate finance is. As evidence of the significance the firm places on this recruitment initiative, immediate partnership will be offered to the right candidate. Our Client firm has a proven record of successfully integrating laterally-hired partners.

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For further information, please contact in complete confidence ***Gareth Quarry*** *or* ***Christopher Sweeney*** *on* ***0171-405 6062*** *(0171-652 2904/0181-960 6527 evenings/weekends) or write to them at* ***Quarry Dougall Recruitment****, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JH. Confidential fax: 0171-831 6394. Initial discussions can be held on a no names basis. E-mail christopher@qdrec.demon.co.uk (not encoded)*

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Broadly, you will cover the whole field of employment law, both in the Tribunals and the Courts, and give employment policy advice. The principal areas of work are in the fields of Equal Opportunities, Health and Safety, European Employment Law, Industrial Relations, Maternity Rights and Contracts of Employment. Experience in all or almost all of these areas is a necessity.

To cope with the rigours of the job, you will need strong team management potential, the interpersonal skills to develop productive working relationships, and a good academic background to complement your commercial skills. In return, we can offer a challenging and intellectually demanding role with excellent career prospects.

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EMPLOYMENT 3-5 yrs
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Top non-contentious IP lawyer with experience of IT, Multi-media or Broadcasting is sought by prestigious firm. Excellent working environment.

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Exciting opportunity for top calibre 1-4 yr pqe Company Commercial lawyer wishing to undertake a broad workload in major Dublin firm. Excellent quality of life.

CORPORATE Media Firm
Popular firm with exciting media client base seeks top calibre 2-3 yr pqe Corporate lawyer to undertake a broad and unusual workload. Strong client contact assured.

IN-HOUSE

TV COMPANY c 2yrs
Specialist TV company has outstanding opportunity for bright young lawyer with ITC experience to join their team and advise on all aspects of programme content and advertising. Some libel experience would be advantageous.

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Leading global investment bank seeks bright, confident young lawyer for exciting frontline role within a small team. Concentrating on emerging markets, there will be plenty of overseas travel. Previous transactional experience is essential.

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Cambridge has much to offer London-trained solicitors, both in terms of quality of work and quality of life. If you are considering a move out of London and wish to discuss the opportunities in Cambridge, we would be keen to have a confidential discussion with you.

CORPORATE Opportunities
Outstanding opportunities for high calibre corporate lawyers at the NQ, 1-3 yr, 5-6 yr, and 7-10 yr levels. Top quality work.

EMPLOYMENT 4-5 yrs
Excellent career move for a confident and capable 4-5 yr pqe Employment lawyer looking for genuine long-term prospects.

IP 4-5 yrs
Great opportunity for a senior Intellectual Property specialist to play a key role at top firm. Broad experience essential.

PROPERTY Opportunities
Two superb new openings, one at the NQ level (broad comm. property), and one at the 2-5 yr level (property development).

PLANNING 1-3yrs
Excellent career opportunity at this established firm for a bright 1-3yr planning lawyer.

For further information, please call Caroline Fish (London/Dublin), or Bridget Burdon (In-House) on 0171 430 1711, or write to Graham Gill & Young, 46 Kingsway, London WC2B 6EN. Fax: 0171 831 4186.

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FRESHFIELDS

PROJECT FINANCE LAWYERS

Our international Project Finance practice comprises a network of lawyers represented in all our offices. Projects range from oil and gas and mining through to power projects and various kinds of infra-structure (including projects promoted under the UK's Private Finance Initiative). You would act for clients comprising project lenders and project promoters as well as, on occasions, government and public sector institutions. Encouragement is given to handling transactions in different sectors and different geographical locations. The broad client spread allows lawyers to acquire the experience of facilitating the proper structuring of Project Finance transactions and successful negotiations through to financial close.

Our London team comprises both English lawyers as well as US lawyers and applications are encouraged from both. Successful applicants will join one of the world's leading Project Finance teams in one of the fastest growing areas of international legal practice.

Please write in the first instance to Jonathon Hill at Freshfields, 65 Fleet Street, London EC4Y 1HS, enclosing your curriculum vitae and an outline of your experience.

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LEGAL COUNSEL

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Our Client is the industry leader in the manufacture and marketing of branded consumer products, dedicated to global leadership.

The implementation of an aggressive growth strategy has led to the appointment of a Legal Counsel to support unique business challenges and opportunities. The position is based at the European Operations centre situated outside Milan, Italy.

With a UK or other Common Law legal qualification, you will have around five years relevant corporate/commercial experience with a knowledge of EU Law. Experience of Central and Eastern European legal issues would be helpful. Languages skills, although useful, are not essential.

Key attributes for this role will be a highly developed commercial awareness, a practical approach, a sensitivity to the requirements of a dynamic corporate environment with an ability to deal comfortably with management at all levels internationally.

The remuneration package will include a competitive relocation program together with attractive benefits fully reflecting the importance of the appointment.

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Closing date for applications: 7th December 1996

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هكذا من الأصل

صكتا من الاجل

FOOTBALL

Ginola out to reclaim leading role for France

By David Maddock

A DRAMA will unfold from France on BBC Television this evening. Not *EastEnders*, but Newcastle United's visit to FC Metz in the Uefa Cup, where David Ginola will be attempting to regain a place in the international side.

The Frenchman returns to his homeland not yet forgiven for his part in France's failure to qualify for the 1994 World Cup finals. To the French, his exclusion from the team is the best soap opera running.

Le Figaro, the respected French newspaper, suggested that Aimé Jacquet, the France manager, was "building a team as colourless as himself". Its ire has been raised by Jacquet's refusal to consider Ginola ever since the player gave the ball away to allow Bulgaria a goal in the last seconds of the World Cup qualifying match which decided that the Bulgars, not France, would go to the United States.

The campaign to restore the outcast has intensified over the past year, so it is opportune that he should be returning to France at the moment when the call has reached its loudest level. "David will be seen live on French television twice, and this is the moment for him to get his message across," Kevin Keegan, the Newcastle manager, said.

And his message? Simple. "I expect to be back in the France side for the World Cup," Ginola said. "Maybe I'm not in the team because I'm too big a personality, but you know in the world these days, it is good to have a personality. Many times I have upset people because I am honest; but I will continue to tell the truth.

"People have been saying that France are too defensive and that is not good because you need something special in the team. If not, the person watching at home on television will switch over to *Baywatch*."

There is a younger rival for Jacquet's attentions and, conveniently, he plays for Metz. At 23, Robert Pires is six years younger than Ginola and — apparently — equally talented.

Ginola, though, believes his experience is a factor in his favour. At 29, he argues, he has reached his prime and would bring subtle qualities to the French squad that are lacking now.

Keegan agrees. "It is a great opportunity for David, but he must ensure that he does not take too much on, doesn't try to beat them all on his own. But hey, he is 29 we are not talking about a boy. He's experienced and knows how to play the best team role. He has been doing that for us, and if he repeats what he has done for Newcastle here then I'm sure it will be good enough."

Metz will be a stern enough test. There was thick snow falling on the French border town last night, a chilling welcome for the North East club. Metz have hit a rich vein of form and, in Pires, boast a talented player ready soon to make an international place his own. They also have Isaias, but not the Brazilian who sparkled briefly for Coventry. It is another, younger, Brazilian who, at 22, has the youthful enthusiasm to dominate midfield.

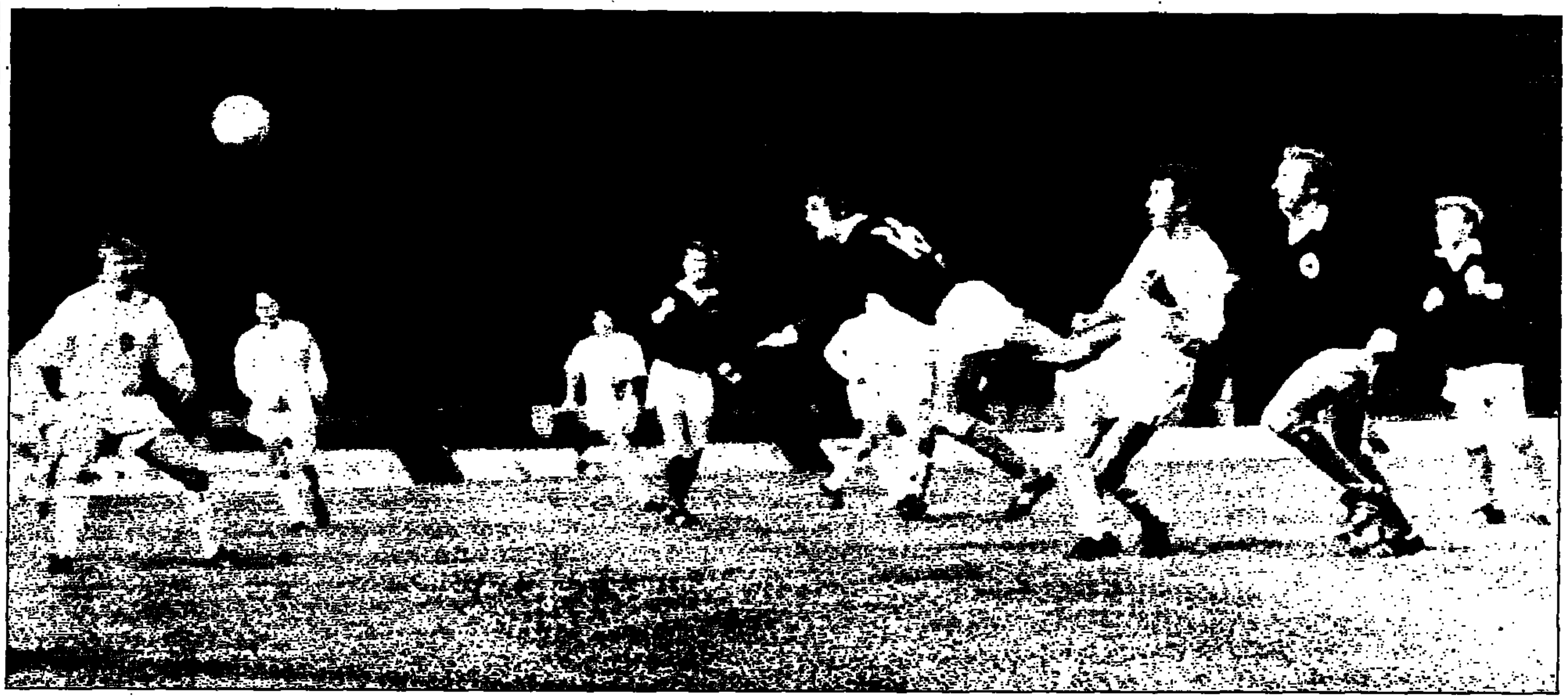
Newcastle's task is made all the harder by the fact that Alan Shearer will not play.

Keegan confirmed that he will not risk the England forward in a tie where his side has a second chance. "Just because Les Ferdinand is injured does not mean that Alan will heal any quicker. He is not ready, it is as simple as that," he said.

Shearer could, however, still prove an intimidating presence poised on the bench.

☐ Emerson, the Middlesbrough midfield player, is to resume training with his team today for the first time since his late return from a holiday in his native Brazil last week. That is expected to be the prelude to talks about his future with the manager, Bryan Robson.

Kevin McCarra recalls how Scotland ended their World Cup exile



Jordan meets Morgan's cross for the winner against Czechoslovakia in front of 100,000 expectant supporters at Hampden Park. Photograph: Glasgow Herald

Jordan rises and a nation heads for glory

I did not see the greatest goal I ever saw. The memory of it was cobbled together from a glimpse I had at the time and the television footage replayed later, but if the manner of Joe Jordan's header was a muddle on that September night in 1973, its meaning was jubilantly clear. His winner against Czechoslovakia ensured that Scotland would take part in the World Cup finals for the first time in 16 years.

Unless you were occupying one of the few seats, spectating at Hampden Park two decades ago was a strenuous business and the congestion was particularly severe at a qualifying match that, for the last time, persuaded 100,000 people to watch the national team at home. In the great amphitheatre of the old stadium, the players were remote and the angles impossible.

In the north enclosure, where the terracing was made of compacted ash held in place by railway sleepers, a shorter friend stood beside me, balanced on two empty lager cans, but, as each sway of the crowd threatened to tumble him, even he could only make out snatches of the action. Twisting, leaning and grabbing a shoulder for balance, we were still engrossed.

The agitation of getting a peek at the game only added to the anxiety over its outcome, creating the great yearning of that evening. Scotland had last appeared in the World Cup finals in the year of my birth, 1958 and, as I made my flustered way through adolescence, Willie Ormond's side was attempting to take its place among the adult countries of international football.

If teenage growing pains must be endured, it is nice to have the Scotland team to share them. Even with 100,000 tickets available for the match, the lunch-hour dash from school to a nearby menswear shop that sold them was still made in panic. At 15, there is a terrible desire to cling to the drama of football, and some of us forget to let go again.

Ormond's side, however, was to enthrall the whole country, and also to surprise it. With Tommy Docherty gone to Manchester United, Ormond had left St Johnstone to become the Scotland manager. The scheduling of his first match for Valentine's Day proved an invitation to doom as England provided the massacre, winning 5-0 at Hampden in February 1973.

If early results were miserable, Ormond was the perfect man to go scouting for fresh players. He was capable of extraordinarily refined assessment, of individual footballers and of the degree to which they would complement one another. Ormond was never in danger of snaring himself in complexity. In due course, the crowd at Hampden would revel in the chant: "Six foot two, eyes of blue, big Jim Holton's after you," but it took shrewd eyes to discern an international defender in Manchester United's raw centre half.

Given his opportunity in an under-23 game with Wales, Holton is said to have, in quick succession, committed a ghastly foul and clattered two clearances into the stand at Vetch Field. Anecdote also tells us of the manager's appreciative response: "Aah, he'll do."

Against Czechoslovakia, Holton was one of five Scotland players who had been recruited by Ormond. Old hands such as Denis Law, who was restored to the squad, and Billy Bremner were important, but it was the extraordinary band of newcomers, their talents and prospects yet to be established, who were fascinating. Holton, who was to die in early middle-age, became a folk hero of a defender.

Danny McGrain proved to be one of the world's great right backs. Jordan, whose toothlessness only enhanced an intimidating aura, developed into the fearless scorer of several important goals for Scotland. Then there were the two men given their debuts against Czechoslovakia, George Connelly and Tommy Hutchison.

Connelly, so deft that he could afford his nonchalance as a sweeper, virtually gave up the game at 26. No manager was able to assist a person who, at heart, did not like being a professional footballer. Hutchison, on the other hand, was to display a celebrated longevity, and the match with Czechoslovakia had swiftly established his fortitude. The next day, a newspaper photograph showed the many bruises inflicted on him by Czechoslovakia. Throughout the game there had been fears of various sorts for the Scotland players. "Watch your legs, Billy," Arthur Montford, STV's marvellous commentator, yelped as an opponent moved in on Bremner.

The course of the match brought an even greater dread, because Scotland fell behind and had to force an equaliser through Holton. The winner from the little-known Jordan, a substitute for Kenny Dalglish, was routine, rendered great purely by its significance. With 15 minutes left Bremner had, tormentingly, struck the post, but the ball was worked out to the right wing and Willie Morgan crossed for Jordan to head tidily into the net.

"Who scored?" I bellowed in the human avalanche that crashed down the terracing. "Jardine," I thought I heard someone yell in reply. Sandy? The full back? What was he doing in attack? My interest in clarification was slight for a 2-1 win now seemed certain. Scotland at least had come of age, even if, for a 15-year-old in the north enclosure, maturity was to take a little longer.

TOMORROW

Michael Henderson recalls a studied lesson in finishing

Sheehan on Bridge

By Robert Sheehan, Bridge Correspondent

Step-by-Step: Deceptive Declarer Play (Batsfords), by Barry Rigal, concentrates on an aspect of the game largely overlooked by average players. There is some good stuff in it. An example:

Dealer South **Love all** **Rubber bridge**

♠K2
♥AJ9742
♦Q3
♣J72

♠A73
♥Q6
♦AK52
♣A1096

N
W E
S

♠J
♥1085
♦J9874
♣Q854

♠Q1098654
♥K3
♦106
♣K3

S	W	N	E
3S	Double	All Pass	

Contract: Three Spades Doubled by South   Lead: Ace of diamonds

West's double was "optional". I heartily endorse the opinion of the author, who considers this to be one of the world's silliest conventions. East had no idea what to do and chose to defend when it would have been more prudent to remove to four of a minor.

West led out his two top diamonds and switched to ace and another club. At this point, all South has to do to make his contract is locate the jack of spades, knowing West to be long in the suit. He found an ingenious way to improve his chances on the hand. His first move was to play the jack of clubs from dummy at trick four. East covered with the queen and he won with the king. He now cashed the king of hearts and led the eight of spades.

West, under the impression that South was 7-1-2-3 and that his side had a club to cash, rose with the ace of spades and that was that. If West had ducked, declarer would probably have drawn the inference that West hoped for two trump tricks. Hence, he would have run the eight of spades, enabling East to score the jack.

☐ *Step-by-Step: Deceptive Declarer Play* (£8.99) is available from either Chess and Bridge 0171-388 2404 or IPBM Mail Order 01159-422 615.

☐ The first weekend of the Premier League has just taken place. At the top with scores of 73 IMPs are teams captained by Paul Hackett and Gus Calderwood. In third place is John Armstrong's team (+47) followed by Andrew Dyson (+22).

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

Keene on Chess

By Raymond Keene
Chess Correspondent

Great tournaments

Continuing my review of great tournaments in the run-up to Las Palmas, which starts next month, today, I move on to St Petersburg, 1914. This was played in two legs, but the players who reached the final could certainly challenge the Las Palmas contingent for the palm of being considered the strongest tournament ever. The St Petersburg field included Lasker, the reigning world champion, Capablanca and Alekhine, his two successors, and Tarrasch and Marshall, world title contenders. As at St Petersburg, 1896, Lasker, at 45, still dominated the next generation.

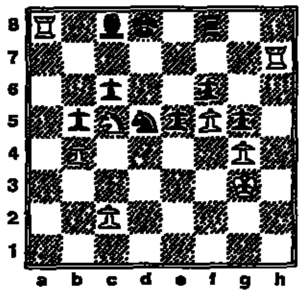
Here is his decisive victory against his closest rival for first prize.

White: Emanuel Lasker
Black: Jose Capablanca
St Petersburg 1914

Ruy Lopez

1	e4	e5
2	Nf3	Nc6
3	Bb5	a6
4	Bxc6	dxc6
5	d4	exd4
6	Qxd4	Qxd4
7	Nxd4	Bd6
8	Nc3	Ne7
9	0-0	0-0
10	f4	Re8
11	Nb3	f6
12	f5	b6
13	Bf4	Bb7
14	Bxd6	cxd6
15	Nd4	Rad8
16	Ne6	Rd7
17	Rad1	Nc8
18	Rf2	b5
19	Rfd2	Rde7
20	b4	Kf7
21	a3	Ba8
22	Kf2	Ra7
23	g4	h6
24	Rd3	a5
25	h4	axb4
26	axb4	Rae7
27	Kf3	Rg8
28	Kf4	g6
29	Rg3	g5+
30	Kf3	Nb6
31	hxg5	hxg5
32	Rh3	Rd7
33	Kg3	Ke8
34	Rdh1	Bb7
35	e5	dxe5
36	Ne4	Nd5
37	N6c5	Bc8
38	Nxd7	Bxd7
39	Rh7	Rf8
40	Ra1	Kd8
41	Ra8+	Bc8
42	Nc5	Black resigns

Diagram of final position



Lasker himself described the conclusion of this memorable game: "The spectators had followed the final moves breathlessly. That Black's position was in ruins was obvious to the veriest tyro. And now Capablanca turned over his king. From the several hundred spectators there came such applause as I have never experienced in all my life as a chessplayer."

☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

THE DONKEY'S EARS
a. Eeyore's melancholy
b. A nickname for MI6
c. A battle

SAM BROWNE
a. A Federal hero
b. A soldiers' song
c. A sword-sling

NUMBER ONE
a. The C-in-C
b. A ranging shot
c. A middle-ranking officer

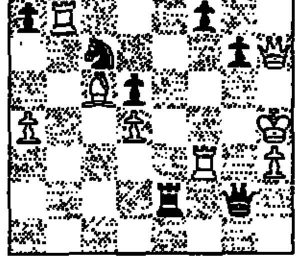
JERRICAN
a. A German tank
b. A Confederate General
c. A petrol container

Answers on page 48

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

White to play. This position is from the game J Polgar — Hansen, Vejstrup, 1989. Judit Polgar is the strongest woman player the world has ever seen and often holds her own against the world's best. Here, she demonstrates a sharp tactical eye. How did she finish Black off?



Solution on page 48

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AMERICAN FOOTBALL: GRBAC INCREASES PRESSURE ON SAN FRANCISCO BY PUTTING RAVENS TO FLIGHT

Young pretender forcing 49ers' hand

By Oliver Holt

IN SAN Francisco, they know that Elvis lives. They know that he is heaping pressure on Steve Young, the quarterback with the best rating in the National Football League (NFL), just as Young began to move Joe Montana out of the 49ers five or six years ago. The problem is, they fear that he may be about to leave.

On Sunday, while Denver Broncos were improving their startling record to ten wins and one defeat while exposing the Super Bowl pretensions of New England Patriots with a 34-8 thrashing in Boston, Elvis Grbac was turning the screw on Young another notch by leading the 49ers to a comfortable 38-20 victory over Baltimore Ravens.

San Francisco have now lost only three of their 11 games and seem to be heading for a National Football Conference final showdown with Green Bay Packers. But it is the subplot that is fascinating northern Californians.

Young is getting old. More important, he is getting injured. Twice in successive games this month, he has been so badly hammered by an opposing defence that he has been forced to leave the game early with concussion. The injury sustained against Dallas Cowboys ten days ago forced him to miss the game against the Ravens.

Grbac, 26, did not really seize his chance against the Cowboys, throwing a crucial interception late in the game, but against St Louis Rams earlier this season he threw three touchdown passes for a combined distance of 322 yards, and on Sunday he excelled again, completing 26 of his 31 passes and throwing for another touchdown.

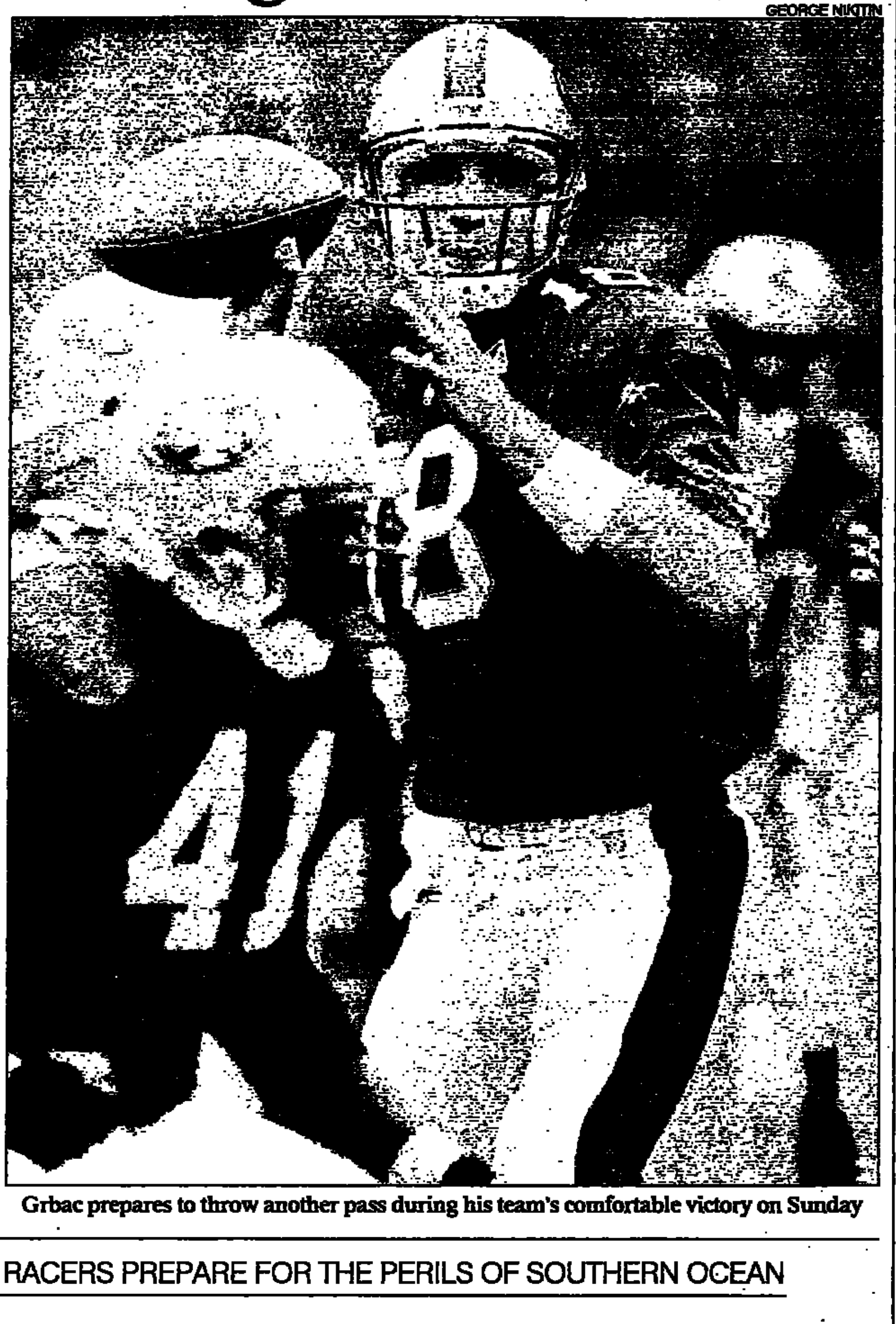
With Grbac's contract up at the end of the season, the 49ers are rapidly approaching the time when they will have to decide between youth and experience. "I truly do not know what I will want if they stick with Steve," Grbac said. "It's the potential of big money and playing right away versus all the things the 49ers offer. I'd like to stay but the key question is how long am I going to have to sit?"

The Broncos have no such worries. There is no threat to John Elway's position as quarterback, but it was their running back, Terrell Davis, who did most damage against New England. He scored three touchdowns in the first half against the Patriots, who had recovered from a sticky start to the season so well that observers were starting to back them for the play-offs.

Buffalo Bills, who have outdone the Broncos at losing Super Bowls, continued their bid for another tilt by beating Cincinnati Bengals 31-17 for their eighth win, a result that sent them to the top of the American Football Conference East division.

At the other end of the spectrum there was more respite for Atlanta Falcons, with a 17-15 win over New Orleans Saints in the Georgia Dome, but none for New York Jets, who have now lost ten of their 11 games. Yet again they came agonisingly close to defeating more favoured opponents, but this time it was Indianapolis Colts who benefited from their largesse and emerged 34-29 winners. The result increases the pressure on Rich Kotite, the eccentric Jets coach, who one New York columnist said "could not lead dishwater down a drain".

GEORGE NIKITIN



Grbac prepares to throw another pass during his team's comfortable victory on Sunday

NFL DETAILS

RESULTS: Atlanta 17 New Orleans 15; Buffalo 31 Cincinnati 17; Detroit 17 Seattle 16; Indianapolis 34 New York Jets 29; Kansas City 14 Chicago 10; New England 8 Denver 34; Philadelphia 21 Washington 26; Pittsburgh 28 Jacksonville 3; St Louis 10 Carolina 20; Arizona 31 New York Giants 23; Houston 20 Miami 23; San Diego 17 Tampa Bay 25; San Francisco 38 Baltimore 20; Oakland 13 Minnesota 16 (OT)

American Conference

	W	L	PF	PA
Eastern division				
Buffalo	8	3	222	192
New England	7	4	283	249
Indianapolis	6	5	208	237
Miami	6	5	261	225
New York Jets	1	10	201	298
Central division				
Pittsburgh	8	3	258	163
Houston	6	5	250	213
Cincinnati	4	7	231	257
Jacksonville	4	7	205	236
Baltimore	3	8	264	324
Western division				
Denver	10	1	296	175
Kansas City	8	3	220	178
San Diego	6	5	242	264
Seattle	5	6	222	256
Oakland	4	7	230	206

National Conference

	W	L	PF	PA
Eastern division				
Washington	8	3	265	211
Philadelphia	7	4	249	229
Dallas	6	4	206	165
Arizona	5	6	195	261
New York Giants	4	7	180	220
Central division				
Green Bay	8	2	288	144
Minnesota	6	5	185	207
Detroit	5	6	225	230
Chicago	4	7	154	206
Tampa Bay	3	8	140	212
Western division				
San Francisco	8	3	272	172
Carolina	7	4	237	158
St Louis	3	8	211	300
Atlanta	2	9	193	318
New Orleans	2	9	167	252

(Not including last night's match: Dallas v Green Bay)

FIXTURES: Sunday: Baltimore v Jacksonville; Buffalo v New York Jets, Chicago v Detroit; Cincinnati v Atlanta, Houston v Carolina; Kansas City v San Diego; Minnesota v Denver; New England v Indianapolis, Tampa Bay v New Orleans, Washington v San Francisco; Arizona v Philadelphia; New York Giants v Dallas; Seattle v Oakland; St Louis v Green Bay. Monday: Miami v Pittsburgh.

SAILING: APPREHENSION MOUNTS AS ROUND-THE-WORLD RACERS PREPARE FOR THE PERILS OF SOUTHERN OCEAN

Icy ordeal awaiting novices in Global Challenge fleet

By Edward Gorman
Sailing Correspondent

IMAGINE you are huddled on watch in the cockpit of a 67-foot BT Global Challenge cutter. You are thousands of miles from the nearest land and it is dark. There are deadly icebergs out there but you cannot see them. There is ice in the rigging, the wind is howling at 40 to 50 knots and the boat is heaving up and down more or less straight into it. You are bitingly cold, wet and frightened.

Most people who sail would not endure that even if they were being paid large amounts of money. Yet somehow, Chay Blyth has persuaded 200 people to pay him £18,750 for its dubious pleasures and their ordeal starts tomorrow when the second leg of the round-the-world race begins from Rio de Janeiro to Wellington in New Zealand.

The first leg, from Southampton to Rio, was certainly no pushover. It was a voyage of some 5,000 miles, but it was almost all downwind and few of the 14-strong fleet saw any really difficult conditions once they had escaped the south-westerly gale in the Solent at the start. If it was uncomfortable, that was mainly because of the heat that built up inside the steel hulls in the tropical conditions in the mid-Atlantic.

The second leg, however, is when this race comes into its own. The challenge of the Southern Ocean is what the Challenge part of the event's title is all about. Twenty-five years ago Blyth took on the Southern Ocean to windward on his own and beat it, despite warnings from experienced sailors who said he would die. The BT Global Challenge crews are not doing it on their own, but then most of them have done very little sailing. The next 7,000 miles will be a gruelling test of stamina that none will forget.

In Rio, there is increasing apprehension about what is coming up combined with a widespread desire to get going again after a long and expensive stay in Brazil. There have been several cases of cold feet as the reality of the next 40 days dawns. But most people are on board just for this — gave up jobs, sold houses, even abandoned partners for it — and they will quickly overcome their fears once the racing begins.

The leader, Mike Golding, on *Group 4* has a two-hour cushion over Simon Walker, on *Toshiba Wave Warrior*, who is about another nine hours ahead of Chris Tibbs, on *Concert*. But there are only 40 hours altogether separating the first ten boats and the ranking order could change dramatically during this leg, when gear failure is likely to play a decisive part.

Meanwhile Group 4 yesterday issued a statement about damage to Golding's yacht when it hit a rock off Rio on Friday. It denied claims by Blyth that Golding had been late in reporting the incident and added that a further inspection of the keel "shows there is nothing to be concerned about". The yacht would make the restart tomorrow on time.

SNOOKER

Merchant concludes profitable business

By Phil Yates

THERE are few religious intrusions into professional snooker but Yasin Merchant, a devout Muslim who reached the last 32 of the United Kingdom championship at Preston yesterday, provides one exception to that rule.

Merchant's 9-5 first-round victory over Dave Finbow acted as a partial consolation for India's absence from the recent World Cup — their failure to qualify as expected from the Far East section was largely due to Merchant's unavailability.

"The dates were changed and it clashed with a visit I had planned to Mecca," Merchant said. "Haj, the holy pilgrimage there, is something every Muslim badly wants to make once in his life and I wasn't prepared to cancel the trip."

Merchant, an urbane 29-year-old businessman from Bombay, led 5-3 after the first session on Sunday and although Finbow rallied to trail only 6-5, breaks of 73, 40 and 38 helped India's leading player to pull away and equal his best run in a ranking event.

In the second round Merchant, the world No 73, will play Mark Williams, who was ferried to a local doctor's surgery immediately after his conversion of a 7-1 overnight lead against Tony Chappel into a 9-3 win.

Williams, who won the Grand Prix three weeks ago, moved into a career-high third place in the provisional standings above Peter Ebdon as a result of his victory. Only Stephen Hendry and John Higgins have more points to their credit. Williams, who vomited before the match and indeed between frames, won the tenth with a yellow to pink clearance and a scrappy twelfth frame.

In ending his opening session against Dave Harold on level terms at 4-4, David Gray, 17, maintained the form that carried him to a surprise victory over John Parrott in the final qualifying round of the German Open five days ago.

Steve Davis and Alan McManus, both beaten in the first round of the event last year, were in strong positions. Davis led Jamie Burnett 6-2, while McManus enjoyed precisely the same advantage over Ian Sargeant.

IN BRIEF

Palmer to benefit from taking to Bath

PAUL PALMER'S days of training in school swimming pools and alongside members of the public at unsociable hours are over (Craig Lord writes). Ian Turner, who coached him to the Olympic silver medal in the 400 metres freestyle in Atlanta, is to head the new training centre at the University of Bath, where Palmer will base himself as a full-time swimmer, as will Mark Foster, the sprinter who has still to translate world-beating performances in short-course (25-metre) pools into success in Olympic (50-metre) pools.

Two world best times were set at the Sprint Champions Night meeting in Aachen, Germany, at the weekend. Jirka Letzin clocked 24.71sec over 50 metres backstroke and Marc Warneke lowered his 50 metres breaststroke mark to 27.74sec.

England pay

BOWLS: The England women's squad fielded an inexperienced side against Guernsey and paid with a 14-8 defeat at Hougue du Pommier in the first international match between the countries. Two of the England six were making their international bows; another two made theirs only last winter. Guernsey, on their own green, took advantage, winning both triples matches, one pairs, and four of six singles.

Morrison out

CRICKET: Danny Morrison, the main New Zealand strike bowler, pulled out of the tour to Pakistan yesterday because of a groin injury, but he should be fit to face England in the new year. Morrison, 30, from Auckland, bowled eight overs on the second day of the New Zealanders' three-day game against a Pakistan Cricket Board XI in Sahiwal, before deciding that the injury, which he sustained last week in Sharjah, was too severe for him to continue.

Henman falls

TENNIS: Tim Henman, the British No 1, has dropped two places from No 27 to No 29 in the latest world rankings issued by the Association of Tennis Professionals, while Greg Rusedski, the British No 2, remains at No 48.

FOR THE RECORD

ATHLETICS

LLANIDLOES: TSB Welsh Schools cross country championships: Senior boys: 1, P Kennedy (Barry College) 20min 18sec; 2, A Davies (Welshpool) 20:24; 3, P Gronow (Whitchurch High) 20:30. Team: Christ College Brecon. Senior girls: 1, C Thomas (Neath College) 11:36; 2, L Kirby (Our Lady's Convent, Cardiff) 11:56; 3, R Evans (Brynteg) 11:59. Team: Neath College

BADMINTON

KING'S LYNN: International match: England 2 China 3 (England names first: Men's singles: C Haughton (Lancashire) bt Gi Xing-Peng 15-5, 18-16. Men's doubles: I Pearson (Essex) and J Anderson (Essex) lost to Zhang Jun and Min Zhenyu 12-15, 5-15. Women's singles: T Woodward (Sussex) lost to Wu Huiman 11-12, 1-11. Women's doubles: J Goode (Hertfordshire) and S Hardaker (Kent) lost to Qian Hong and Liu Lu 9-15, 7-15. Mixed doubles: J Quinn (Middlesex) and Goode bt Chen Wei and Liu Lufang 15-10, 15-8)

BANGKOK: Thai Open: Finals: Men: Dong Jiong (China) bt J Suprianto (Indo) 15-13, 15-7. Women: Wang Chen (China) bt Kim Ji-Hyun (S Kor) 2-11, 11-5, 11-7

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Portland 88 Indiana 83; Golden State 102 San Antonio 92; LA Lakers 102 Phoenix 88; LA Clippers 102 Milwaukee 94; Seattle 91 Vancouver 81.

BOXING

ATLANTIC CITY: World Boxing Union featherweight championship: Kevin Kelley (US, holder) bt Edwin Santana (US) pts

JOHANNESBURG: World Boxing Union bantamweight championship (vacant): Lehlohonolo Ledwaba (SA) bt Cruz Carbajal (Mex) pts

CRICKET

HOBART: Tour match (final day of four): Australian XI 544-4 dec (M L Hayden 224, M T G Elliott 158) and 28-0; West Indians 317 (C O Browne 93 not out) and 251 (S Chanderpaul 77, B C Lara 63, G S Blewett 5-29). Australian XI win by ten wickets

SHEFFIELD SHIELD (final day of four): Sydney: Queensland 330 and 108-3 (T J Barsby 68). New South Wales 296 (S R Waugh 106, M A Taylor 53, M S Kasprowicz 5-110) and 141. Queensland win by seven wickets. Melbourne: Victoria 345-9 dec (D M Jones 152, I J Harvey 70) and 38-1; South Australia 84 (D J Saker 4-22) and 298 (G Parker 112, B A Johnston 52; Harvey 7-44). Victoria win by nine wickets. Perth: Tasmania 473-6 dec and 252-4 dec (J Cox 116); Western Australia 326-4 dec (J L Langer 143 not out, T M Moody 114) and 258. Tasmania win by 141 runs

SUPERSPORT SERIES: Cape Town (final day of four): Boland 239 and 205, Western Province 509-7 dec. Western Province win by an innings and 65 runs. Centurion (third day of four): Free State 349 (L J Wilkinson 87, J F Venter 76), Northern Transvaal 190 and 154. Free State win by an innings and five runs. East London (third day of four): Border 261; Eastern Province 338-5. Match abandoned. Kimberley (final day of four): Transvaal 440-6 dec and 194-4 dec; Griqualand West 327 and 214. Transvaal win by 93 runs

EQUESTRIANISM

MILLSTREET, Co Cork: Irish Indoor Grand Prix: 1, Rochet (A Ledermann, Fr) clear, 35.72; 2, Ashley (M Whitaker, GB) clear 36.14; 3, Borsalino (U Fah, Switz) clear 38.06.

FENCING

CRYSTAL PALACE: Eden Cup (Junior World Cup men's foil): 1, F Rorchling (Ger); 2, A Zamiynny (Pol); 3 equal, M Daerr (Ger) and L Alterley (Fr); 5, J Beevers (GB); 6 equal, P Oulex (Switz) and T Tancun (Egypt); 8, N Chirac (Fr)

FOOTBALL

Sunday's late results

ITALIAN LEAGUE: Juventus 0 AC Milan 0.

SPANISH LEAGUE: Sevilla 1 Real Madrid 3

GERMAN LEAGUE: Hansa Rostock 0 Duisburg 1

FRENCH LEAGUE: Lille 1 Lyons 1

WORLD CUP QUALIFYING: Concacaf zone: Costa Rica 3 Guatemala 0, Jamaica 1 Mexico 0, Honduras 11 St Vincent 3

GOLF

THOUSAND OAKS, California: Shark Shootout: Final scores (US unless stated): 187: J Haas and T Kite 67, 60, 60. 189: H Irwin and L Janzen 68, 61, 60; C Stadler and L Wadkins 69, 57, 63. 190: B Faxon and P Jacobsen 68, 63, 59; M O'Meara and C Strange 66, 64, 60. 194: C Beck and S Hoch 66, 69, 59. 196: R Floyd and G Norman (Aus) 67, 65, 64; J Colbert and B Lietzke 70, 64, 62. 197: M Calcavecchia and S Elkington (Aus) 69, 67, 61. 198: J Daly and D Duval 67, 66, 65

HOCKEY

WOMEN'S REPRESENTATIVE MATCHES: England Under-28 XI 0 Sutton CL 1 (at Lilleshall); England Under-21 XI 2 Wimbledon 2; England Under-18 XI 1 Ealing 1 (both at Bisham Abbey)

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Los Angeles 4 Chicago 2; St Louis 4 Anaheim 2; Dallas 7 Edmonton 3

SUPERLEAGUE: Cardiff 4 Nottingham 1, Manchester 6 Ayr 1; Newcastle 3 Basingstoke 1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Cardiff	14	10	1	3	71	44	21
Newcastle	16	8	2	6	73	58	20
Sheffield	12	8	2	2	51	31	18
Manchester	12	5	1	6	45	51	12
Nottingham	12	5	0	7	38	50	11
Basingstoke	13	4	1	8	46	56	10
Ayr	11	3	2	6	40	50	8
Bracknell	12	3	1	8	35	59	7

NETBALL

ENGLISH COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Gloucestershire 33 Essex Metropolitan 62; Surrey 48 Warwickshire 47; Nottinghamshire 51 Middlesex 44; Hertfordshire 39 Bedfordshire 52

MOTOR RACING

MACAU: Formula Three Grand Prix (27 laps in two legs of 3.9-mile Guia street circuit) 1, R Firman (GB, Dallara-Mugen) 1hr 3min 14.91sec; 2, M Angelelli (It, Dallara-Opel) 1:03:19.331; 3, J Trulli (It, Dallara-Opel) 1:03:20.172; 4, S Ayari (Fr, Dallara-Opel) 1:03:22.984; 5, T Coronel (Den, Tom's Toyota) 1:03:24.846.

REAL TENNIS

QUEEN'S CLUB: British Land British Open Championship (GB unless stated): First round: P Brake bt M Howard 6-4, 6-5, 6-5; B McFarlane (Aus) bt M Coughlan 6-4, 6-2, 6-1; J Male bt S Virgona (Aus) 6-5, 6-1, 6-1; P Tabley (Aus) P Jarvis 6-2, 6-1, 6-1; J Howell bt H Latham 6-3, 4-6, 6-4, 6-1

RUGBY UNION

WOMEN'S NCP DIVISIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP: Midlands 7 South 35; Midlands West Region 3 South West Region 10; Midlands East Region 0 South East Region 17; North 6 London 14; North West Region 5 London Region 12; North East Region 16 Eastern Counties 10

SCHOOLS MATCH: Royal Hospital 36 Colchester RGS 3

SNOOKER

PRESTON: UK championship: First round (England unless stated): K Doherty (Ire) bt N Pearce 9-2; J Wattana (Thai) bt J Birch 9-3; T Murphy (Ire) bt R O'Sullivan 9-7; A Drago (Malta) bt A Burnett (Scot) 9-4; A Hicks beat N Terry 9-4; D Taylor (N Ire) bt P Lines 9-5; M Williams (Wales) bt T Chappel (Wales) 9-3; Y Merchant (India) bt D Finbow 9-5

SQUASH

KARACHI: World open: First round: C Walker (GB) bt J Kneipp (Aus) 15-14, 15-11, 15-8; S Frenz (Ger) bt T Hands (GB) 15-10, 9-15, 17-15, 15-7; A Hill (Aus) bt P Johnson (GB) 15-7, 15-11, 9-15, 15-6; C Rowland (Aus) bt A Gough (Wales) 15-5, 15-5, 15-11; Zarak Jahan (Pak) bt J Nicolle (Eng) 15-7, 13-15, 15-12, 8-15, 15-5; C Walker (Eng) bt J Kneipp (Aus) 15-14, 15-11, 15-8; S Frenz (Ger) bt T Hands (Eng) 15-10, 9-15, 17-15, 15-7; B Martin (Aus) bt B Davis (Aus) 15-8, 15-13, 15-9; A Hill (Aus) bt P Johnson (Eng) 15-7, 15-11, 9-15, 15-6; Zubair Jahan (Pak) bt M Chaloner (Eng) 15-12, 7-15, 15-6, 15-6; R Eyles (Aus) bt D Ryan (Ire) 15-10, 15-12, 15-10; M Cairns (GB) bt S Heads (GB) 14-15, 15-6, 15-8, 15-8

SWIMMING

LEICESTER: Speedo British Grand Prix: Men: 50m breaststroke: 1, S Handley (City of Bristol) 29.03; 2, M Giles (Ireland) 29.33; 3, J Wild (City of Bradford) 29.75. 100m freestyle: 1, Handley 50.35sec; 2, P Bolk (Leatherhead) 51.67; 3, B Kwok (City of Coventry) 51.77. 100m backstroke: 1, A Ruckwood (City of Birmingham) 55.42; 2, N Willey (Barnet Copthall) 55.85; 3, A O'Connor (Ire) 58.18. 200m medley: 1, D Wigg (Newcastle) 2:05.11; 2, M Cole (York City Baths) 2:05.35; 3, A Turner (MU Salford) 2:06.07. 400m freestyle: 1, G Meadows (City of Leeds) 3:56.55; 2, I Wilson (City of Leeds) 3:56.97; 3, A Woods (Norwich Penguins) 3:59.70. Women: 50m freestyle: 1, S Volker (Hamburg) 25.34; 2, S Rolph (Newcastle) 25.94; 3, K Hawcroft (MU Salford) 26.50. 50m backstroke: 1, Volker 28.48 (meet record); 2, S Price (Barnet Copthall) 29.73; 3, M Zoller (Ger) 29.74. 100m butterfly: 1, C Foot (York City Baths) 1:01.98; 2, S Greenep (Ferndown) 1:02.68; 3, S Massey (City of Bradford) 1:02.74. 200m breaststroke: 1, J King (Borough of Waltham Forest) 2:29.57; 2, L Middlemore (City of Sheffield) 2:34.59; 3, H Earp (Newcastle St) 2:34.70

TENNIS

HARTFORD, Connecticut: ATP Tour world doubles championship: Round-robin: L Pimek (Bel) and B Talbot (SA) bt J Eltingh (Holl) and P Haarhuis (Holl) 6-7, 7-5, 6-4; D MacPherson (Aus) and T Kronemann (US) bt J Bjorkman (Swe) and N Kulti (Swe) 4-6, 7-5, 7-6; S Lareau (Can) and A O'Brien (US) bt T Woodbridge (Aus) and M Woodforde (Aus) 4-6, 6-3, 7-5; B Black (Zim) and G Connell (Can) bt N Broad (GB) and P Norval (SA) 7-5, 3-6, 6-4. Final: Woodbridge and Woodforde bt Lareau and O'Brien 6-4, 5-7, 6-2, 7-6.

VILLANOVA, Pennsylvania: Women's tournament: Final: J Novotna (Cz) bt S Graf (Ger) 6-4 ret.

JEDDAH, Saudi Arabia: Men's over-35 tournament: Semi-finals: J Kriek (US) bt G Vilas (Arg) 6-0, 6-3; J Fitzgerald (Aus) bt Y Noah (Fr) 6-3, 6-4. Final: Kriek bt Fitzgerald 6-4, 6-3.

VOLLEYBALL

OSAKA, Japan: Women's world super challenge: South Korea 3 Brazil 0; China 3 Thailand 0; Cuba 3 Japan 0

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
China	5	4	1	13	4	9
Cuba	5	4	1	12	4	9
Brazil	5	3	2	10	6	8
South Korea	5	3	2	9	7	8
Japan	5	1	4	4	12	6
Thailand	5	0	5	0	15	5

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Men: First division: Polonia Ealing 1 Sportset Whitefield 3; Malory Lewisham 3 Warwick Riga 0; Reebok Liverpool City 0 Tooting Aquila 3; Leeds 3 City Of Stoke 2; Wessex 3 Crofton Sportswearhouse 0; Womens Division One; KLEA Leeds 3 Birmingham 2. Women: First division: Man Utd Salford 3 Essex Estonians 0; Ashcombe Guildford 3 London Malory 2; Reebok Liverpool City 2 Loughborough 3; Sheff Wed 0 Britannia Music City 3

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated
** denotes all-ticket*

Uefa Cup
Third round, first leg
FC Metz v Newcastle
(at Saint-Symphorien Stadium, 8.0)

Nationwide League
First division
Crystal Palace v Sheffield Utd (7.45)
Ipswich v Swindon (7.45)
Manchester City v Huddersfield (7.45)
Oxford Utd v Bolton (7.45)

Second division
Bournemouth v Brentford (7.45)
* Bristol Rovers v Burnley
Crewe v Bristol City
Notts County v Bury (7.45)
Peterborough v Gillingham (7.45)
Plymouth v Chesterfield (7.45)
Preston v Luton (7.45)
Stockport v Blackpool
Watford v Wycombe (7.45)
Wrexham v Rotherham
York v Walsall

Third division
Carlisle v Cambridge Utd (7.45)
Colchester v Scunthorpe (7.45)
Darlington v Exeter
Doncaster v Northampton
Fulham v Barnet (7.45)
Hartlepool v Cardiff
Hereford v Lincoln
Leyton Orient v Wigan (7.45)
Mansfield v Chester (7.45)
Rochdale v Scarborough
Swansea v Brighton

Bell's Scottish League
First division
East Fife v Greenock Morton
Partick v St Johnstone

Spalding Cup
Second round
Bromsgrove v Northwich (7.45)
Kettering v Farnborough (7.45)
Rush and Diamonds v Stevenage (7.45)
Woking v Welling (7.45)

DR MARTENS LEAGUE: Premier division: Atherstone v Cheltenham, Burton v Worcester City; Chelmsford v King's Lynn (7.45); Crawley v Dorchester; Gloucester v Newport AFC; Gravesend and Northfleet v Hastings; Halesowen v Gresley (7.45); Sudbury Tn v Ashford. Midland division: Bedworth v Redditch; Ilkeston v Bilston; Moor Green v Dudley Town; Shepshed D v Grantham; Stafford v Sutton Coldfield Town. Southern division: Buckingham Town v Erith and Belvedere; Cirencester Town v Cinderford; Fleet T v Newport IoW; Tonbridge Angels v Margate; Witney v Yate.

ICIS LEAGUE: Premier division: Staines v Enfield. First division: Tooting and Mitcham v Thame. Second division: Bracknell v Edgware; Horsham v Metropolitan Police; Leatherhead v Banstead; Ware v Wembley. Guardian Insurance Cup: Second round: Bedford T v Chertsey. Second round replay: Coll Row and Romford v Billericay.

UNIBOND LEAGUE: First division: Workington v Curzon Ashton. League Cup: Second round: Bamber Bridge v Radcliffe; Barrow Ath v Gretna; Flixton v Warrington; Spennymoor v Harrogate Town. Second round replay: Gainsborough v Leek. Unifilla first division Cup: First round: Stocksbridge PS v Matlock Town.

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: Premier division: Derby v Blackburn (7.0); Sheffield Wednesday v Birmingham (7.0).

FAI HARP LAGER NATIONAL LEAGUE: Shield final: Galway v Limerick (at Terryland Park).

WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First division: Herne Bay v Beckenham; Thamesmead v Folkestone Invicta.

SCREWFIX DIRECT LEAGUE: Premier division: Barnstaple v Torrington.

COMBINED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Ashford v Cove; Corinthian-Casuals v Chipstead; Viking Sports v Feltham.

PRESS & JOURNAL HIGHLAND LEAGUE: Elgin v Rothes.

HELLENIC LEAGUE: Premier division: Bicester v Abingdon United.

NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Eastwood H v Kidsgrove; Mossley v Chadderton; Trafford v Glossop North End.

JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Clacton v Soham; Hadleigh U v Bury Town; Newmarket v Fakenham; Stowmarket v Tiptree; Sudbury v Harwich and Parkeston; Warboys v March; Watton v Wisbech; Wroxham v Sudbury Res.

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: Lymington v Wimborne town; Thatcham v Ryde Sports.

UHLSPORT UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Boston v Mirrlees Blackstone; Eynesbury v Cogenhoe; Holbeach v Bourne; Newport Pagnell v Potton; St Neots v Northampton Spencer; Stamford v Desborough; Stotfold v Kempston; Wellingborough v Spalding; Wootton v Long Buckby. Knockout Cup: Second round: S and L Corby v Thrapston.

FA YOUTH CUP: First round: Bognor Regis v Viking Sports.

SCHOOLS MATCHES: FA Premier League Trophy: Under-19: Warwickshire v West Midlands (at Racing Club, Warwick). Under-16: Oxfordshire v Dorset (at Didcot Town).

RUGBY UNION

Tour matches
Cambridge University v
Western Samoa XV (3.0)
Leinster v Australia XV
(at Lansdowne Road, 7.0)

Under-21 match
Leinster v New Zealand News
(at Donnybrook, 2.30)

CLUB MATCHES: Gloucester v RAF (7.0); Richmond v Combined Universities (7.15).

OTHER SPORT

BADMINTON: International match: England v China (at Sheffield).

BASKETBALL: European Cup: PTT Ankara (Tur) v London.

ICE HOCKEY: European League: Manchester v Lulea (Swe) (7.0)

REAL TENNIS: British Open (at Queen's Club).

SNOOKER: UK championship (at Preston).

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 47

THE DONKEY'S EARS

(c) The Battle of Tsu-Shima (donkey's ears) in 1904, not far from Vladivostok. A vast but antiquated Russian fleet had sailed from the Baltic. After many adventures, including a mistaken and bitterly resented attack on a British trawler fleet off the Dogger Bank, it met the Japanese, and was trounced. All ships that were not sunk surrendered, except for three that made it to Vladivostok, and a few that escaped to internment in Manila.

SAM BROWNE

(c) A Sam Browne belt. A belt with a supporting strap that passes over the right shoulder, worn by commissioned officers of the British Army, and also by members of various police forces. An eponym of Sir *Samuel* James *Browne* (1824-1901), the British general who invented it.

NUMBER ONE

(c) Navyspeak for the First Officer, who would be below the rank of Commander. It may have originated from the days when lieutenants were graded according to their seniority in the ships in which they were serving for the time being. For example, in Nelson's Navy, a third-rater might have carried five lieutenants, each well aware of his number, seniority and thus his chance of promotion.

JERRICAN

(c) A five-gallon (usually metal) container for petrol, water, etc., first used in Germany and in the desert by the Afrika Corps in the Second World War. It was superior to the leaky British job and later adopted by the Allies.

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1. Qg7+! Kxg7; 2. Rfxf7+ Kh8 (2. . . . Kh6; 3. Rh7 mate); 3. Rh7+ Kg8; 4. Rbg7 checkmate.

POOLS FORECAST

Saturday November 23
Coupon No. future, forecast

FA PREMIERSHIP	
1 Chelsea v Newcastle	1
2 Coventry v A Villa	1
3 Leicester v Everton	X
4 Liverpool v Wimbledon	1
5 Middlesbro v Man Utd	2
6 * Nott'm F v Blackburn	2
7 South'pton v Leeds	1
8 Sunderland v Sheff W	X
9 West Ham v Derby	1
FIRST DIVISION	
10 Barnsley v Portsm'th	X
11 Birm'gham v Swindon	X
12 Charlton v Bradford	1
13 C Palace v Wolves	1
14 Hudd'f'd v Grimsby	1
15 Ipswich v P Vale	2
16 Man City v Tranmere	X
17 Oldham v Oxford	2
18 Reading v QPR	1
19 Stoke v Southend	1
SECOND DIVISION	
20 Blackpool v Notts Co	1
21 Brentford v Wrexham	2
22 Bristol C v Peterboro	1
23 Burnley v Bourn'm'th	1
24 Bury v Plymouth	X
25 Chest'f'd v Watford	2
26 Gillingham v York	X
27 Luton v Bristol R	1
28 Rotherham v Millwall	2
29 Shrewsbury v Stockp't	2
30 Walsall v Crewe	2
31 Wycombe v Preston	X
THIRD DIVISION	
32 Cardiff v Hereford	1
33 Exeter v Hull	1
34 Lincoln v Mansfield	2
35 North'pton v Rochdale	2
36 Scarboro v Swansea	1
37 Scunth'pe v Darlington	1
38 Torquay v Hartlepool	1
39 Wigan v Fulham	X
SCOTTISH PREMIER	
40 Dundee U v Raith	1
41 Hibernian v Aberdeen	2
SCOTTISH FIRST	
42 Falkirk v St Mirren	X
43 G Morton v Stirling	2
44 Partick v Airdrie	1
45 S J'stone v Clydebank	1
SCOTTISH SECOND	
46 Ayr v Q of South	1
47 Clyde v Stranraer	1
48 Dumbarton v Berwick	1
49 Hamilton v Brechin	1

* Pools panel to adjudicate

DRAWS (home teams): Leicester, Sunderland, Barnsley, Birmingham, Manchester City, Bury, Gillingham, Wycombe, Wigan, Falkirk.

BEST DRAWS: Leicester, Birmingham, Manchester City, Gillingham, Wigan.

AWAYS: Manchester United, Oxford, Millwall, Stockport, Crewe

HOMES: Southampton, West Ham, Huddersfield, Reading, Stoke, Bristol City, Burnley, Luton, Exeter, Scunthorpe.

FIXED ODDS: Homes: Southampton, West Ham, Huddersfield, Stoke, Burnley. Aways: Oxford, Millwall, Stockport. Draws: Leicester, Birmingham, Manchester City

☐ Vince Wright

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Saint-Symphorien, Kick-off 8.00pm, Live on BBC TV.
METZ TO WIN
6/1 ....1-0 | 25/1 3-0
9/1 ....2-0 | 22/1 3-1
9/1 ....2-1 | 33/1 3-2
NEWCASTLE TO WIN
11/2 ....1-0 | 22/1 3-0
9/1 ....2-0 | 20/1 3-1
9/1 ....2-1 | 33/1 3-2
ODDS FOR A DRAW
11/2 .....0-0 5/1 ....1-1 18/1 2-2
Other scores on request.
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RACING: TOP JOCKEY FINDS JOB SATISFACTION AGAIN AFTER SPLIT WITH WELLINGTON TRAINER

Bridgwater relieved to end Pipe dream

By Alan Lee

THE first thought that occurred when David Bridgwater gave up the job as stable jockey to Martin Pipe was that he must either be very rich or quite mad. Only much later, once the drama of the split had been compounded by a curious absence of explanations, did it become clear that he must in fact have been extremely unhappy.

It took a degree of courage to sacrifice a guaranteed 100-plus winners a season and the prospect of being champion jockey. But perhaps it also took a degree of desperation. On the final Sunday in September, Bridgwater made his farewell call to Pipe because he had looked at the only working life he ever wanted and realised he didn't like it any more.

"In my last six months with Mr Pipe I could have retired, just like that — packed up at the age of 25. I had got so low you wouldn't believe it. I like to think I'm a jolly kind of bloke but I just didn't enjoy what I was doing. I asked myself what the difference was and there was only one thing — Martin Pipe."

It is only now that peace of mind has descended and Bridgwater will speak relatively freely about the episode. There are still aspects of his decision that he will not discuss, incidents he declines to divulge. He insists he did not row with Pipe, yet it is clear there was little warmth of understanding in their relationship and that Bridgwater felt insecure and unappreciated.

In their one full season together, Bridgwater rode 132 winners, 54 more than his previous best. Superficially, it seemed that his aggressive riding style was tailored for the trainer who loves to see his horses in front from tape to post. They began the new season with Pipe's usual crop of fast-ground winners, yet there was no empathy between them and Bridgwater's boyish face grew longer and more forlorn.

The smile is back now and he unhesitatingly puts that down to quitting the position craved by most of his profession. Pipe, while maintaining staggering statistics of success, remains an enigmatic man, deliberately remote and, by consequence, unloved.

Bridgwater cuts a figure of domestic bliss now, as he sits in the Cotswold farmhouse that has been home for four months, with Lucy, his wife of almost a year, and George, his son of eight weeks. But if an impression arises of a young man giving up on his vocation, surrendering ambition for an easy life, think again.

"People tell me I'm crazy and that I could have been champion. I don't think about that — it doesn't interest me at all. I have never considered being champion. Is it worth putting yourself through all that? But none of this means I am unambitious."

Bridgwater grew up with racehorses and never had a thought of being anything but a jockey. He still doesn't. His father, Ken, has trained in Solihull for 30 years and David was only 14 when he contrived to leave school for a career in racing.

"It was down to an understanding headmaster, probably fed up with me bunking off all the time. Stupid, really. My one regret is not taking my education seriously. I shiver when I think of what would have happened to me if I hadn't made it as a jockey. When I see some of my old mates, on the dole and stealing cars, I realise what a risk I took."

That he did make the grade was due to guidance from some illustrious masters, Lester Piggott and David Nicholson among them. Piggott made him a rider, Nicholson made him a man. "I learned about the way you should conduct yourself at the races, especially with owners, and how to school young horses. It was an important time but I had to move on to try and get rides. I asked Peter Scudamore what I should do and he put me in touch with Nigel Twiston-Davies."

Those were the best times of his career to date and, when he left Twiston-Davies's yard to join Pipe it was with deep regret. "I told Nigel I would be back and I will be. He is a very good trainer and a fine friend to all who are loyal to him. I suppose he's my kind of boss and, whenever Carl Lewellyn decides to retire, I hope to take over as number one jockey. In a sense, that is all I have ever wanted."

In the meantime, despite the loss of more certain winners than most jockeys would dare dream about, Bridgwater seeks no sympathy, only a measure of understanding. "We are not all made the same in this game and I just didn't feel comfortable with Mr Pipe's mechanical way of training."

I didn't fall out with him. Compared to Richard [Dunwoody], I probably got along with him okay, but I was never really sure where I stood. There was always the feeling that, six months down the line, I might have ridden a bad race and he could have sacked me without a thought.

"I have no idea how Mr Pipe felt about me leaving. What I do know is that after I had made the break, the weight lifted off my mind was immense. It was such a relief to think that I could get back to enjoying life."

CHRIS SMITH

Bridgwater and his weighing room colleagues take advantage of a quiet spell to watch others in action

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: Cumbrian Challenge
(2.40 Wetherby)

Next best: Hurricane Lamp
(1.10 Wetherby)

Imperial Call to rule again

By Our Irish Racing Correspondent

IMPERIAL CALL left such an indelible impression when winning last season's Cheltenham Gold Cup that it will be a major disappointment if he cannot become the first chaser since L'Escargot in 1971 to retain his crown.

The Fergie Sutherland-trained seven-year-old missed his intended seasonal debut with a slight injury but is scheduled to start in a Punchestown chase on December 7, before tackling Leopardstown's Hennessy Gold Cup.

The daunting thought for his opponents is that **Imperial Call** may be an improved horse this season. He is reported to have strengthened up considerably and his blend of accurate jumping and relentless galloping suggests he is a strong candidate for more Gold Cup glory.

The Irish novice chasers look formidable with Danoli already capturing the headlines after two victories in his new role. The second of these, at Naas earlier this month, was not impressive though, and it may well be that his old rival, **Dorans Pride**, will prove superior over fences.

The former stayers' champion has also won twice over fences and the acid test will come when they are scheduled to meet in the Drinmore Chase at Fairyhouse on December 1. The evidence so far suggests that Dorans Pride may be a more aggressive jumper than Danoli and he looks an ideal Sun Alliance Chase type.

Aidan O'Brien's **Rockfield Native** also looks a promising novice prospect. It is in the novice hurdle department that the O'Brien stable looks particularly strong, however. Liss De Paor and Theatreworld have already won, but **Finnegans Hollow** may emerge as the best of them.

Although beaten on his hurdling debut at Navan on Sunday, the six-year-old was most impressive in a Fairyhouse bumper last April.

Imperial Call is Sutherland's standard bearer but he also looks to have a promising hurdling prospect in **Tempo**, who won a Gowran bumper last May. The four-year-old has been pinfired, which has delayed his reappearance, but Tempo should be seen out over Christmas.

Urubande is the most prominent Irish-trained horse in the Champion Hurdle betting lists. However, Urubande, a Cheltenham and Liverpool winner last season, could emerge as a Stayers' Hurdle candidate. Adding the Martell Aintree Hurdle to the Sun Alliance Hurdle proved this strapping chestnut's stamina and his class would make him a formidable opponent over longer distances.

Stamina will also be the strong point of Arthur Moore's **Whale Of A Knight**, who should pick up a valuable handicap chase this season.

LINGFIELD PARK

THUNDERER

12.20 Kazimiera. 12.50 Double Rush. 1.20 Hoofprints. 1.50 South Eastern Fred. 2.20 Wild Sky. 2.50 Tissue Of Lies. 3.20 Father Dan. 3.50 Hawaii Storm.

GOING: STANDARD DRAW: 7F, LOW NUMBERS BEST SIS

12.20 MARK MAIDEN STAKES
(Div I: 3-Y-O: £3,046: 1m) (8 runners)

1 4003 ROYAL ACTION 27 J Banks 9-0 ... M Wigham 4
2 -325 CATUMBELLA 10 (BF) J Gosden 8-9 ... A McGlone 6
3 6200 EFFICACIOUS 12 A Moore 8-9 ... Candy Morris 7
4 0506 FANCY DESIGN 7 P Mitchell 8-9 ... J Quinn 2
5 0306 KAZIMIERA 12 W Elsey 8-9 ... G Faulkner (5) 1
6 44 LACANDONA 26 P Chapple-Hyam 8-3 ... D Holland 8
7 2-30 RASH GIFT 27 Lord Huntingdon 8-9 ... D Harrison 3
8 63 SCHERMA 80 W Jarvis 8-9 ... Dane O'Neill 5

2-1 Lacandona, 3-1 Scherma, 7-2 Catumbella, 6-1 Royal Action, 13-2 Rash Gift, 7-1 Kazimiera, 10-1 others.

12.50 PESETA HANDICAP
(Div I: £2,048: 1m 2f) (13)

1 1320 ZAHID 121J (CD,BF,G) K Burke 5-9-11 ... J Quinn 10
2 0002 GOLDEN TOUCH 8 (D) D Cosgrove 4-9-11 ... G Faulkner (5) 9
3 4206 MIMOSA 7 (E,F) S Dow 3-9-10 ... A Daly (5) 6
4 1141 DOUBLE RUSH 7 (CD,F,G) T Mills 4-9-9 (5ex) ... S Sanders 7
5 2001 MARADATA 29 (D,F,G) R Hollinshead 4-9-8 ... F Lynch (3) 1
6 060- ROBIN ISLAND 411J P Hedger 4-9-1 ... A McGlone 11
7 2110 COMEDY RIVER 27 (CD,BF,F,G) N Berry 9-9-1 ... Dane O'Neill 13
8 0005 KIROV PROTEGE 7 (G) Mrs L Jewell 4-8-9 ... Darren Williams (7) 5
9 0500 RETURN TO BRIGHTON 15 (F) J Bradley 4-8-5 ... S Drowne 4
10 4300 CALLONESCY 249J D O'Brien 4-8-5 ... G Carter 12
11 0006 BURNING FLAME 18 R Flower 3-7-12 ... F Norton 2
12 0250 WINGNUT 7 (B,G) R Ingram 3-7-12 ... T Williams 3
13 000R CARWYN'S CHOICE 77 P Clarke 3-7-10 ... N Adams 8

9-4 Double Rush, 4-1 Golden Touch, 6-1 Maradata, 8-1 Burning Flame, 12-1 Mimosa, 14-1 Zahid, 16-1 others

1.20 GUILDER HANDICAP (£2,900: 1m 4f) (9)

1 5000 JOHNS ACT 19 (B,D,G,S) D Haydn Jones 6-10-0 ... G Duffield 1
2 1005 YOUR MOST WELCOME 14 (C,F) D I-Davis 5-9-12 ... G Parkin (5) 2
3 0332 MASTER MILLFIELD 8 (C,BF,F,G) P Evans 4-9-9 ... A Culhane 3
4 0411 HOOFPRINTS 4 (CD,G) Mrs A Perrett 3-9-7 (5ex) ... A Clark 5
5 3053 CEILIDH STAR 21 (B,F) B Hills 3-9-5 ... D Holland 7
6 0504 SMILE FOREVER 7 Miss G Kelleway 3-8-6 ... Dane O'Neill 6
7 5000 FORGOTTEN DANCER 7 (S) R Ingram 5-8-2 ... T Williams 9
8 0436 BASOOD 15 (B) S Woods 3-8-0 ... D Biggs 8
9 0-00 ETOILE DU NORD 8 H Collingridge 4-7-10 ... N Adams 4

2-1 Hoofprints, 3-1 Master Millfield, 4-1 Ceilidh Star, 9-2 Your Most Welcome, 6-1 Smile Forever, 12-1 Basood, 14-1 others.

1.50 FRANC CONDITIONS STAKES
(£3,648: 1m 2f) (13)

1 1005 FILIAL 36 (D,F) B Meehan 3-9-1 ... M Tebbutt 5
2 0200 ABLE CHOICE 164 (C,G) R Armstrong 6-9-0 ... G Carter 4
3 0050 CEDEZ LE PASSAGE 29 (B,G) K C-Brown 5-9-0 ... M Roberts 3
4 5000 KINTWYN 113 (CD,G) W Muir 6-9-0 ... D Harrison 10
5 2500 NIGHT WINK 24 (F,G) G L Moore 4-9-0 ... Dane O'Neill 13
6 4022 OBELOS 41 (D,F) Miss S Wilton 5-9-0 ... D R McCabe 6
7 4305 OPERA BUFF 5 (C,F,S) Miss G Kelleway 5-9-0 ... S Sanders 11
8 0055 SADLER'S WALK 27 (D,F) G Wragg 5-9-0 ... A Clark 2
9 0410 SOUTH EASTERN FRED 62 (CD) H Collingridge 5-9-0 ... J Quinn 1
10 0500 COOL FIRE 31 (C,G) S Woods 3-8-10 ... W Ryan 7
11 4011 THAI MORNING 7 (C,F,G) P Harris 3-8-10 ... G Duffield 8
12 0056 WEET-A-MINUTE 10 (F,G) R Hollinshead 3-8-10 ... F Lynch (3) 12
13 51 TWO TO TANGO 17 (G) J Gosden 3-8-8 ... A McGlone 9

7-2 Two To Tango, 5-1 Thai Morning, 6-1 Opera Buff, 7-1 Obelos, 8-1 Night Wink, Weet-A-Minute, 10-1 Sadler's Walk, 12-1 others

2.20 ARTHUR BRADLEY RETIREMENT MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-O: £3,009: 7f) (13)

1 00 BOATER 19 D Morley 9-0 ... G Carter 6
2 0460 FLOWER HILL LAD 78 D Cosgrove 9-0 ... J Quinn 3
3 000 FRUITIE O'FLARETY 10 C Brittain 9-0 ... M Roberts 11
4 0 HENLEY 17 D Loder 9-0 ... D R McCabe 5
5 6 LIGHTS OF HOME 8 R Hannon 9-0 ... Dane O'Neill 13
6 3800 MILLROY 59 P Kelleway 9-0 ... M Wigham 12
7 5202 MON BRUCE 7 W Muir 9-0 ... F Lynch (3) 4
8 0066 MYOSOTIS 21 P Makin 9-0 ... S Sanders 7
9 3 WILD SKY 11 M Heaton-Ellis 9-0 ... S Drowne 1
10 00 ZORRO 22 R Flower 9-0 ... D Biggs 2
11 0 HEVER GOLF MAGIC 11 M Johnston 8-9 ... D Holland 10
12 0000 MYSTERY 7 (E) S Dow 8-9 ... A Daly (5) 8
13 OVER THE MOON M Fetherston-Godley 8-9 ... D Harrison 9

5-2 Millroy, 3-1 Mon Bruce, 4-1 Wild Sky, 10-1 Myosotis, 12-1 Flower Hill Lad, Henley, 14-1 Fruitie O'Flarety, 16-1 others

2.50 MARK MAIDEN STAKES
(Div II: 3-Y-O: £3,045: 1m) (8)

1 06 DARATOWN 8 P Evans 9-0 ... A Culhane 4
2 5000 LAHIK 116 K Ivory 9-0 ... N Adams 1
3 2200 TISSUE OF LIES 44 M Johnston 9-0 ... M Roberts 3
4 0443 BALINSKY 12 J Berry 8-9 ... P Roberts (5) 7
5 0500 COMMIN' UP 18 J Hills 8-9 ... D Holland 2
6 6240 PASSAGE CREEPING 87 (E,BF) S Dow 8-9 ... S Sanders 8
7 0064 QUESTING STAR 12 G Wragg 8-9 ... A Clark 5
8 052 THE FUGATIVE 12 P Mitchell 8-9 ... J Quinn 6

2-1 Tissue of Lies, 9-2 Questing Star, Commin' Up, 5-1 Balinsky, 8-1 others

3.20 PESETA HANDICAP
(Div II: £2,048: 1m 2f) (12)

1 5020 MYFONTAINE 21 (D,F,G,S) K Ivory 9-9-11 ... D Biggs 3
2 0604 KITTY KITTY CANCAN 21 (B) Lady Herries 3-9-10 ... A Clark 2
3 0303 FATHER DAN 12 (CD,F,G) Miss G Kelleway 7-9-9 ... S Sanders 11
4 0011 ARZANI 5 (CD,G) D Cosgrove 5-9-9 (5ex) ... G Faulkner (5) 10
5 -005 QUEEN'S INSIGNIA 7 (F,G) P Cole 3-9-7 ... C Rutter 8
6 5060 HATTA SUNSHINE 29 (CD,G) A Moore 6-9-3 ... A Whelan (3) 4
7 -601 ADAMTON 27 (D,F) Mrs J Cecil 4-9-0 ... M Roberts 6
8 0-00 RAINY DAY SONG 48 Lord Huntingdon 3-8-13 ... D Harrison 9
9 0431 ZAHRAN 7 (C,F,G) J Bradley 5-8-9 (5ex) ... S Drowne 12
10 5440 BY THE BAY 22 (E) S Dow 4-8-5 ... A Daly (5) 5
11 0000 VANBOROUGH LAD 12 (F,G,S) M Bolton 7-8-4 ... G Duffield 1
12 0002 PARONOMASIA 5 J L Harris 4-7-10 ... J Quinn 7

3-1 Arzani, 6-1 Kitty Kitty Cancan, Adamton, Zahran, Father Dan, 10-1 others

3.50 LADBROKE ALL-WEATHER TROPHY HANDICAP (Qualifier: £3,173: 7f) (14)

1 2502 GREATEST 7 (CD,F,G) Miss G Kelleway 5-10-0 ... Dane O'Neill 13
2 -002 SWEET WILHELMINA 48 (C,D,G) Lord Huntingdon 3-9-13 ... D Harrison 4
3 5001 MISS OFFSET 15 (B,D,G,S) M Johnston 3-9-13 ... D Holland 11
4 2031 TWIN CREEKS 22 (CD,F,G) V Soane 5-9-9 ... C Rutter 12
5 0611 SMITHEREENS 5 (CD,G) P Walwyn 3-9-8 ... S Copp (5) 2
6 0203 UTMOST ZEAL 31 (D,F) P Harris 3-9-7 ... A McGlone 14
7 0435 INVOCATION 12 (CD,F,G) A Moore 9-9-4 ... Candy Morris 5
8 0050 NEVER THINK TWICE 15 (B,F) K Ivory 3-9-3 ... D Biggs 1
9 0000 SHAHI 15 J Carr 3-9-3 ... A Clark 8
10 5000 OUR SHADEE 20 (CD,F,G) K Ivory 6-9-0 ... G Duffield 7
11 5300 CHARMING BRIDE 35 (B,CD) S Williams 3-8-10 ... D McCabe 9
12 5506 HAWAII STORM 31 (CD,G,S) D I-Davis 8-8-8 ... P McCabe (3) 3
13 3000 RISKING 12 (E) G Lewis 3-8-3 ... A Whelan (3) 6
14 0406 DIA GEORGY 7 (CD,F,G,S) C Dwyer 5-7-10 ... J Quinn 10

7-2 Smithereens, 9-2 Greatest, 6-1 Sweet Wilhelmina, Twin Creeks, 7-1 others

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: D Loder, 13 winners from 31 runners, 41.9%; G Wragg, 9 from 24, 33.3%; J Gosden, 8 from 27, 29.6%; P Harris, 11 from 40, 27.5%; S Williams, 6 from 24, 25.0%

JOCKEYS: M Roberts, 10 winners from 35 rides, 28.6%; W Ryan, 24 from 124, 19.4%; A Culhane, 4 from 23, 17.4%; G Duffield, 23 from 148, 15.5%; D Holland, 12 from 87, 13.8%.

NEWTON ABBOT

THUNDERER

1.00 Denomination. 1.30 Foxtrot Romeo. 2.00 Devon Peasant. 2.30 Bramblehill Buck. 3.00 Holdimclose. 3.30 James The First. 4.00 Iranos.

GOING: SOFT SIS

1.00 PHILIP BOWEN 50TH BIRTHDAY SELLING HURDLE (£1,784: 2m 1f) (6 runners)

1 5333 DENOMINATION 38 (F) M Pipe 4-11-12 ... A P McCoy 99
2 210- URBAN LILY 158F (B,G) R Hodges 6-11-0 ... J Harris (7) 91
3 5 FASTING GOLD 19 M [illegible] 4-11-12 ... W McFarland 91
4 2 PEATSVILLE 20 M Channon 4-10-12 ... A Thornton –
5 YET AGAIN 8F Miss G Kelleway 4-10-12 ... D Bridgwater –
6 00-5 KONGIES MELODY 51 K Bishop 6-10-7 ... R Greene –

[illegible] 6-1 Urban Lily, 8-1 Peatsville, 20-1 Kongies Melody

1.30 SOUTH WEST RACING CLUB NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE
(£2,982: 2m 5f 110yd) (11)

1 320- FOXTROT ROMEO 213 (S) C Brooks 6-12-0 ... D Gallagher –
2 -14 STRONG TARQUIN 24 (CD,BF,G,S) P Nicholls 6-12-0 ... A P McCoy 99
3 52- ORSWELL LAD 521 (S) P Hobbs 7-11-13 ... R Dunwoody –
4 1-0 COLETTE'S CHOICE 13 (G) G Ham 7-10-10 ... A Thornton –
5 230- CONEY ROAD 220 C Brooks 7-10-5 ... Mr E James –
6 0-65 CASTLECONNER 13 R Frost 8-10-2 ... J Frost –
7 P54 ITS GRAND 10 (S) J Bradley 7-10-0 ... T J Murphy 98
8 3621 CROWN IVORY 26 (F) P Nicholls 8-10-0 ... S Fox –
9 U-16 COUNTRY KEEPER 13 B Ham 8-10-0 ... G Upton –
10 PPPP VARECK II 19 (S) M Pipe 9-10-0 ... B Moore (7) –
11 0F-P JAC DEL PRINCE 12 P Nicholls 6-10-0 ... D Burrows (7) –

[illegible] 4-1 Strong Tarquin, 6-1 Orswell Lad, 7-1 Crown Ivory, 8-1 [illegible] 10-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: M [illegible], 3 winners from 5 runners, 60.0%; C Brooks, 7 from 18, 38.9%; P Hobbs, 41 from 142, 28.9%; P Nicholls, 31 from 119, 26.1%; M Pipe, 53 from [illegible], 23.1%; T Thomson Jones, 3 from 13, 23.1%

JOCKEYS: R Dunwoody, 59 winners from 190 rides, 31.1%; A P McCoy, 29 from [illegible], 23.2%; D Bridgwater, 26 from 116, 22.4%; A Thornton, 13 from 51, 25.5%; B Fenton, 4 from 20, 20.0%; T J Murphy, 4 from 22, 18.2%

2.00 FAUCETS SIRRUS SHOWER VALVES AND FITTINGS NOVICES HURDLE (£2,845: 2m 1f) (12)

1 0-13 LAKE KARIBA 14 (BF,G) P Nicholls 5-11-6 ... A P McCoy 99
2 BRYAN ROBSON 157F J Mullins 5-11-0 ... S Curran –
3 0UU- COOL GUNNER 202 J King 6-11-0 ... C Maude –
4 2/P HELLO ME MAN 24 (S) B Llewellyn 8-11-0 ... Mr J L Llewellyn –
5 3/ NORDANCE PRINCE 760 Miss G Kelleway 5-11-0 ... D Bridgwater –
6 04P- PALLADIUM BOY 223 Mrs J Retter 6-11-0 ... R Dunwoody –
7 6-PP PARADE RACER 14 P Murphy 5-11-0 ... W McFarland –
8 /30 SAAFI 14 B Bates 5-11-0 ... B Powell –
9 00- SAXON MEAD 14 P Hobbs 6-11-0 ... M A Fitzgerald –
10 60- WALTER'S DESTINY 230 C Mitchell 4-11-0 ... S McNeill –
11 22 DEVON PEASANT 14 L Cottrell 4-10-9 ... Mr L Jefford 80
12 D64- IMALIGHT 196 R Frost 7-10-9 ... J Frost 75

7-4 Lake Kariba, 2-1 Devon Peasant, 6-1 Nordance Prince, Imalight, 9-1 others.

2.30 CLAUDE WHITLEY MEMORIAL CHALLENGE CUP HANDICAP CHASE (£3,559: 3m 2f 110yd) (10)

1 20-3 DOM SAMOURAI 14 (B,S) M Pipe 5-12-0 ... C Maude 97
2 /06- FAST THOUGHTS 341 (S) D Gandolfo 9-11-13 ... R Dunwoody 96
3 11- ANDRE LAVAL 252 (G,S) K Bailey 7-11-9 ... C O'Dwyer 95
4 30-3 BRAMBLEHILL BUCK 13 (C,S) P Nicholls 7-11-1 ... A P McCoy 98
5 F2-1 CHURCH LAW 19 (G) Mrs L Taylor 9-11-1 ... D Bridgwater 99
6 3P5- SORREL HILL 267 (G,S) P Hobbs 9-10-13 ... L Harvey 89
7 2P0- DESPERATE 213 (G,S) A Foster 8-10-13 ... D Creech (7) 94
8 5/2 ROCKY PARK 13 (S) G Balding 10-10-5 ... B Fenton 98
9 520- FLOW 235 (S) R Buckler 7-10-5 ... B Powell –
10 22/ CARLINGFORD LAKES 873 (S) T Thomson Jones 8-10-0 ... M A Fitzgerald –

9-4 Church Law, 9-2 Andre Laval, Bramblehill Buck, Dom Samourai, 8-1 others.

3.00 WILLIAM HILL HANDICAP HURDLE
(£3,485: 2m 6f) (11)

1 /0- BLAZER MORINIERE 507 (G) P Ritchens 7-12-0 ... S Fox –
2 111- CHAPRASSI 306 (G,S) M Pipe 7-11-11 ... C Maude 94
3 00-3 BALANAK 24 (V,S) D Gandolfo 5-11-10 ... R Dunwoody 98
4 13-3 SPARKLING YASMIN 45 (S) P Hobbs 4-11-8 ... B Powell 94
5 00-0 NEEDWOOD MUPPET 24 (D,G) A J Wilson 9-10-13 ... L Harvey 95
6 51-4 HOLDIMCLOSE 13 (D,S) R Frost 6-10-13 ... J Frost 96
7 06-3 THE REVEREND BERT 10 (BF) G Balding 8-10-9 ... A P McCoy 98
8 61-1 BETTER BYTHE GLASS 51 (C,D,S) N T-Davies 7-10-3 ... C Llewellyn 97
9 2-04 JADIDH 18 (CD,F,G,S) A Barrow 8-10-2 ... D Salter (5) 99
10 510- DATIS ROSE 216 (S) M Sheppard 6-10-0 ... C O'Dwyer 94
11 0-51 ALLOW 14 (S) B Llewellyn 5-10-0 ... Mr R Thornton (5) 88

7-4 Chaprassi, 5-1 Balanak, Sparkling Yasmin, The Reverend Bert, 10-1 others.

3.30 FAUCETS A & J GUMMERS HANDICAP CHASE
(£2,832: 2m 110yd) (5)

1 1-53 JAMES THE FIRST 15 (CD,S) P Nicholls 8-12-0 ... A P McCoy 96
2 -323 REX TO THE RESCUE 38 (D,G) R Alner 8-10-13 ... P Henley (3) 99
3 1/F- MISS MARIGOLD 10 (B,F,G,S) R Hodges 7-10-9 ... R Dunwoody –
4 4412 FENWICK 7 (D,BF,F,G,S) R Hodges 9-10-1 ... T Dascombe (3) 97
5 P/3- WELL TIMED 198 (S) R Frost 6-10-0 ... J Frost 99

7-4 James The First, 5-1 Rex To The Rescue, Fenwick, Miss Marigold, 8-1 Well Timed

4.00 BOUNDERIES INTERMEDIATE OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (£1,201: 2m 1f) (12)

1 1 NEVER IN DEBT 68 (F) A Hobbs 4-11-11 ... Mr G Shenkin (7) –
2 43- SPRIG MUSLIN 246 (S) D Gandolfo 4-11-6 ... Sophie Mitchell (5) –
3 00- APRIL SEVENTH 346 J Neville 5-11-4 ... W Marston –
4 00 BABA SAM 24 P Eccles 5-11-4 ... A Thornton –
5 02- COUNTRY TARQUIN 200 R Hodges 4-11-4 ... R Dunwoody –
6 5 DEFENDTHEREALM 13 R Frost 5-11-4 ... Mr A Holdsworth –
7 DOM BELTRAND N Twiston-Davies 4-11-4 ... L Suthern (7) –
8 GREENFIELD GEORGE P Hobbs 5-11-4 ... D J Kavanagh (5) –
9 IRANOS M Pipe 4-11-4 ... A P McCoy –
10 MR AGRIWISE R Frost 5-11-4 ... J Frost –
11 6-0 ZAGGY LANE 13 Mrs R Henderson 4-11-4 ... D Salter (5) –
12 0- SHE'S THE GOVERNOR 200 N Ayliffe 5-10-13 ... B Powell –

3-1 Dom Beltrano, 7-2 Iranos, Sprig Muslin, 5-1 Never In Debt, 10-1 others

RACELINE
0930 168+
COMMENTARY RESULTS
WETHERBY 101 201
N. ABBOT 102 202
LINGFIELD 103 203
FULL RESULTS SERVICE 168

RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S THREE MEETINGS

Leicester

Going: good to firm (chase course): good to soft (hurdles)

12.55 (2m hdle) 1, Deraydan (A P McCoy, 4-9 fav); 2, Dana Point (16-1); 3, Ely's Harbour (10-1) 9 ran. 16l, 20l. M Pipe. Tote £1.30, £1.00, £4.60, £3.30. DF: £11.90. Trio £9.50. CSF £8.92

1.25 (2m hdle) 1, Peter Monamy (A P McCoy, 11-8 fav), 2, Bluntswood Hall (12-1); 3, Dark Truffle (9-1). 21 ran. NR. Appeal Again. 2l, 7l. M Pipe. Tote £1.80, £2.10, £2.40, £1.50 DF: £17.50. Trio £89.80. CSF £19.93

1.55 (2m 1f ch) 1, Sigma Run (R Johnson, 7-4); 2, Captain Stockford (25-1); 3, Larks Tail (14-1). Cootteen Hero 5-4 fav (ur) 5 ran 11l, 6l. J Edwards. Tote £2.50; £1.10, £13.50 DF: £15.40. CSF £24.02

2.25 (3m ch) 1, Imperial Vintage (N Williamson, 5-4 fav); 2, Celtic Town (11-4); 3, Far Senior (20-1). 4 ran 3l, 2½l. Miss V Williams. Tote: £2.10. DF: £2.80. CSF: £4.71.

2.55 (2m hdle) 1, Nahri (T Eley, 7-2): 2, Kingdom Of Shades (4-1); 3, Mizyan (16-1). Yubralee 7-4 fav 6 ran 3l, 7l J Mackie. Tote: £4.50; £2.10, £2.50 DF: £13.60. CSF: £15.54.

3.25 (2m 4f 110yd hdle) 1, Glistening Dawn (S McNeill, 10-1): 2, Jolis Absent (4-1), 3, Riverbank Rose (6-1). Children's Choice 7-2 jt-fav 10 ran. 1½l, 1¼l. T Keddy. Tote £10.90; £3.40, £1.30, £1.60 DF: £22.70 Trio £21.40. CSF £49.89. Tricast: £248.77

3.55 (2m 4f 110yd hdle) 1, Barryben (R Massey, 11-1): 2, General Tonic (4-1), 3 Ehtefaal (6-1). Barford Sovereign 5-2 fav 7 ran 3l, 8l W Brisbourne. Tote: £12.70, £2.10, £2.30. DF £21.00 CSF: £51.72

Jackpot: £3,242.00.

Placepot: £99.00.

Quadpot: £39.60.

Plumpton

Going: good to soft, soft in places

1.05 (2m 4f hdle) 1, Whistling Buck (A Garrity, 5-1). 2, Fawley Flyer (7-4 fav): 3, Miramare (16-1) 7 ran. 1l, 17l. R Rowe. Tote £6.50; £1.70, £2.30. DF £4.90 CSF £12.90

1.35 (2m 6f ch) 1, Woodlands Boy (D Walsh, 12-1), 2, Mr Matt (10-1): 3, Crodon (13-2). Black Church 6-1 jt-fav (ur) 11 ran NR. Bealson 1¾l, 1l R Curtis. Tote: £12.30, £3.30, £3.20, £2.10 DF: £101.80. Trio £150.10 CSF: £108.38 Tricast £770.71.

2.05 (2m ch) 1, Dawn Chance (R Dunwoody, 5-4); 2, Joker Jack (6-1): 3, Gallic Girl (11-10 fav). 3 ran Dist, dist R Hodges Tote. £1.80 DF: £3.20 CSF: £5.85

2.35 (2m 4f hdle) 1, Scotby (B Powell, 20-1); 2, Dantes Cavalier (7-4 fav), 3, Lord Rooble (15-2) 12 ran. 1¾l, 2l. R Buckler Tote £25.20, £6.50, £2.20, £2.20. DF £21.80. Trio £31.40. CSF £50.95.

3.05 (2m 5f ch) 1, Mammy's Choice (P Henley, 12-1); 2, Amber Spark (6-4 fav); 3, Ramstown Lad (10-1). 11 ran NR Lets Go Now, Pennant Cottage, Ring Corbitts ¾l, 20l R Alner Tote: £15.70, £3.50, £1.10, £2.40. DF. £25.10. Trio. £47.10. CSF: £29.28

3.35 (2m 1f hdle) 1, Ritto (M A Fitzgerald, 9-4). 2, Docklands Courier (6-1); 3, Mullintor (11-2). Second Step 2-1 fav 8 ran 2½l 3½l J Neville Tote: £2.90, £1.10, £2.00, £1.70 DF: £14.10. CSF £15.12

Placepot: £103.50. Quadpot: £10.10.

Southwell

Going: standard

12.15 (6f) 1, Honeyhall (J Quinn, 8-1); 2, Queens Check (7-1); 3, Ballard Lady (8-1) Miss Aragon 13-2 fav 15 ran NR Morning Surprise. ½l, sh hd N Bycroft. Tote £11.60; £3.80, £2.20, £2.40 DF £21.70 Trio £77.10 CSF £63.91 Tricast £452.06

12.45 (1m) 1, Indiahra (T Williams, 9-4 fav), 2, Three Weeks (14-1); 3, Sandmoor Denim (5-1) 15 ran NR: Miss Charlie 1¼l, nk. J Eyre. Tote £3.80 £1.20 £9.30, £1.70 DF £50.70 Trio £178.90 CSF £34.58.

1.15 (6f) 1, Sally Green (G Duffield 11-2), 2, Cee-N-K (2-1 fav): 3, Double-O (16-1). 14 ran NR Supreme Maimoon 1½l, nk. C Wall. Tote £5.40, £1.70, £1.50, £5.80 DF: £7.80 Trio £66.10 CSF £18.52 Supreme Maimoon (9-1) was withdrawn, not under orders — rule 4 applies to all bets, deduction 10p in pound

1.45 (6f) 1, Shashi (R Lappin, 20-1). 2, Anita's Contessa (7-1): 3, Juba (16-1) Madrina 11-4 fav. 15 ran. ¾l, 1l W Haigh Tote £16.90, £4.20, £1.90 £6.60 DF: £107.40 Trio: £205.80 (part won, pool of £202.94 carried forward to 3.40 at Wetherby today) CSF £154.00 Tricast £2,174.41

2.15 (7f) 1, Erosion (M Roberts, 5-1); 2, Effervescence (9-1); 3, Nomore Mr Niceguy (14-1). Jeffrey Anotherred 2-1 fav 12 ran Sh hd ½l M Johnston. Tote £6.20; £2.40, £2.40, £4.80 DF: £22.40. Trio: £100.20 CSF £49.44 Tricast £564.88

2.45 (1m) 1, Domino Flyer (D Holland, Evens fav); 2, Desert Zone (11-2): 3 Ya Marhaba (12-1) 15 ran NR. Komiamaite 3l, 4l. Mrs A Swinbank. Tote £2.70; £1.30 £2.00, £2.60. DF. £4.00. Trio £23.50 CSF. £9.51.

3.15 (1m 3f) 1, Ihtimaam (D Holland, 7-2). 2, Greenspan (7-4 fav), 3, Forzair (11-1) 16 ran. 1¾l, 5l. Mrs A Swinbank. Tote £7.20, £2.10, £1.30, £10.90 DF £7.00 Trio. £13.20. CSF. £12.26.

3.45 (2m) 1, Onefourseven (T Williams 6-4 fav); 2, Coleridge (6-1). 3, Iota (12-1) 11 ran. Nk, 5l J Eyre Tote: £2.50 £1.90 £1.50, £3.60 DF. £8.10. Trio. £45.90 CSF: £12.13 Tricast £32.69

Placepot: £543.30. Quadpot: £200.10

WETHERBY

THUNDERER

1.10 Alzulu
1.40 Baronet
2.10 Oversman
2.40 Nakir
3.10 SOUNDS STRONG (nap)
3.40 Dally Boy

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating:
2.10 JACKSON PARK.

GUIDE TO OUR IN-LINE RACECARD

101 113143 GOOD TIMES 13 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 12-0 ... B West (7) 88

Racecard number. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing; F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT SIS

1.10 MALTON RACING ASSOCIATION NOVICES HURDLE
(£3,097: 2m) (16 runners)

101 3/112- ALZULU 251 (F,G) (D Buckle) J Fitzgerald 5-11-0 ... M Dwyer –
102 06 BLUE LUGANA 10 (D Wright) N Bycroft 4-11-0 ... D Bentley 81
103 2/ CLAVERING 577 (B Maguire) J Johnson 6-11-0 ... N Williamson –
104 CUTHILL HOPE (Mrs E Gilchrist) M Tompkins 5-11-0 ... – –
105 0- FATHER GERARD 206 (Contrac Promotions Ltd) B Rothwell 5-11-0 ... A Dobbin –
106 440-4 GALEN 13 (J Renton, A Sharratt) Mrs M Reveley 5-11-0 ... P Niven 92
107 18- HURRICANE LAMP 255 (S) (Mr & Mrs F Welch, R Barrs) D Nicholson 5-11-0 ... A Maguire –
108 03/6 JOE JAGGER 15 (Ms C Carr) M Hammond 5-11-0 ... R Garritty –
109 00P- MAKE A BUCK 256 (Mrs A Marten) L Lungo 6-11-0 ... F Perratt –
110 0/ MALTA MAN 596 (J Stephenson) P Cheesbrough 6-11-0 ... A S Smith –
111 0035R-5 MENSHAAR 8 (G Arthur) L Lungo 4-11-0 ... M Foster 98
112 0-F ONEOFTHEOLDONES 7 (R Baker) J Norton 4-11-0 ... Derek Byrne –
113 00-03 PENTLAND SQUIRE 24 (Mrs M Dixon) J Jefferson 5-11-0 ... R Guest 88
114 40-4 ROTHARI 23 (M Saunders) B Rothwell 4-11-0 ... R Johnson –
115 02 SHARED RISK 12 (Graham Brocklebank) J Norton 4-11-0 ... W Fry 99
116 244635- THE ROAD WEST 401 (S) (V Kelly) J Eyre 7-11-0 ... J R Kavanagh –

BETTING: 7-4 Alzulu, 7-2 Hurricane Lamp, 8-1 Galen, 10-1 Clavering, 12-1 Shared Risk, 14-1 Cuthill Hope, The Road West, 16-1 others

1995: TURNPOLE 4-11-0 P Niven (11-8 fav) Mrs M Reveley 13 ran

FORM FOCUS

ALZULU 2l 2nd of 24 to Wither Or Which in grade II Bl Group Festival Bumper at Cheltenham (2m 110yd, good to soft). CLAVERING 2l 2nd of 12 to Claverhouse in National Hunt Flat race at Ayr (2m, good to firm) April 1995. HURRICANE LAMP best effort last term beat Johnny-K 7l in 20-runner National Hunt Flat race at Sandown (2m 110yd, soft). MENSHAAR 15¾l 5th of 10 to Lifebuoy in novice handicap hurdle at Carlisle (2m 4l 110yd, good). PENTLAND SQUIRE 25l 3rd of 9 to Contrafire in novice hurdle at Carlisle (2m 1f, good). ROTHARI 5¾l 4th of 14 to Durad in National Hunt Flat race over course and distance (good). SHARED RISK 9l 2nd of 12 to Alabang in novice hurdle at Market Rasen (2m 1f 110yd, good). THE ROAD WEST 6l 3rd to Scenic Route in National Hunt Flat race at Limerick (2m 1f, good).
Selection: ALZULU (nap)

1.40 FERDY MURPHY'S OWNERS NOVICES CHASE
(£4,029: 3m 1f) (8 runners)

201 2411F-1 BARONET 13 (F,G,S) (Mrs D Thompson) D Nicholson 6-11-5 ... A Maguire 99
202 F0661/F- ASLAN 375 (G,S) (Mr & Mrs R Green) J Fitzgerald 8-11-0 ... M Dwyer –
203 F33F00- CALLERNOY 202 (S) (Exors of R Lamb) D Lamb 6-11-0 ... J Burke –
204 021- CELTIC GIANT 214 (S) (R Gilbert) L Lungo 6-11-0 ... M Foster –
205 10234-P CROWN EQUERRY 3 (BF,G) (R Ogden) G Richards 6-11-0 ... B Harding –
206 5/634-32 MONYMOSS 13 (Mrs S Smith) Mrs S Smith 7-11-0 ... R Guest 76
207 152521- RIVER UNSHION 204 (S) (R Crake) J Johnson 6-11-0 ... N Williamson –
208 22624-3 RYE CROSSING 17 (F) (C Stevens) T Easterby 6-11-0 ... L Wyer 88

BETTING: 7-4 Baronet, 5-2 Crown Equerry, 5-1 Rye Crossing, 6-1 Aslan, 10-1 Celtic Giant, 12-1 River Unshion, 14-1 others

1995: MALAWI 5-10-12 A S Smith (6-5 fav) W Bethell 4 ran

FORM FOCUS

BARONET beat Castle Chief 7l in novice chase at Kempton (3m, good). CELTIC GIANT beat Spaceage Gold neck in novice hurdle at Ayr (3m 110yd, good to soft) with BARONET (9lb better off) fell 3 out. CROWN EQUERRY pulled up after 1st behind Naughty Future in novice chase at Ayr (3m 1f, good). Previously 8l 4th to Him Of Praise in novice hurdle at Sandown (2m 6f, good to soft). MONYMOSS 1¾l 2nd to Imperial Vintage in novice chase at Haydock (3m, good). RIVER UNSHION beat Bobbyjo 2l in handicap hurdle at Sligo (3m, soft). RYE CROSSING 18l 3rd of 9 to Potter's Bay in novice handicap chase here (2m 4l 110yd, good).
Selection: BARONET

2.10 HENDERSON INSURANCE BROKERS LTD JUVENILE NOVICES HURDLE (3-Y-O: £3,019: 2m) (18 runners)

301 136 PRELUDE TO FAME 17 (G) (Jumbo Racing Club) Miss M Milligan 11-4 ... A S Smith 85
302 P0R ARROGANT HEIR 21 (D Brown) D Brown 10-12 ... Mr A Rebori 74
303 AUTUMN LORD (A Bocock) P Beaumont 10-12 ... R Supple –
304 6 BAASM 12 (Bradlor Developments Ltd) J Norton 10-12 ... W Fry 77
305 6 ERIC'S BETT 34 (R Willis) F Murphy 10-12 ... K Whelan (3) 82
306 52 JACKSON PARK 17 (C Stevens) T Easterby 10-12 ... L Wyer 99
307 JOE SHAW 423F (F Gillespie) Mrs M Reveley 10-12 ... N Smith –
308 0F LUCKY BEA 15 (Bee Health Ltd) M W Easterby 10-12 ... R Johnson –
309 0 MELTEMISON 13 (Lucky Seven Racing Club) M Hammond 10-12 ... Mr C Bonner (3) 80
310 NEEDLE MATCH 74F (Clayton Bigley Plant Ltd) J J O'Neill 10-12 ... R McGrath (5) –
311 NEXSIS STAR 19F (Mrs S Smith) Mrs S Smith 10-12 ... R Guest –
312 ONYOUROWN 36F (T Hardy) J Johnson 10-12 ... N Williamson –
313 OVERSMAN 195F (Marquesa de Moratalla) J Fitzgerald 10-12 ... M Dwyer –
314 0 PROPOLIS POWER 34 (M Easterby) M W Easterby 10-12 ... P Midgley (5) –
315 0 ALWARQA 12 (J Sutton) M Hammond 10-7 ... D Bentley 74
316 BANK ON INLAND (T Turner) J Turner 10-7 ... A Dobbin –
317 P DUNTALKIN 15 (D Curl) J Jefferson 10-7 ... M Newton (7) –
318 0 SOUSSE 13 (Wensleydale Racing Press) Mrs M Reveley 10-7 ... P Niven –

BETTING: 9-4 Jackson Park, 5-1 Lucky Bea, 6-1 Alwarqa, 8-1 Meltemison, Onyourown, 10-1 Oversman, Prelude To Fame, 12-1 others

1995: CIRACUSA [illegible]

FORM FOCUS

PRELUDE TO FAME 7½l 3rd of 15 to Go-Go-Power-Ranger in novice hurdle at Sedgefield (2m 1f, good to firm) on penultimate start. BAASM about 17l 6th of 14 to Chief Mouse in novice hurdle at Market Rasen (2m 1f 110yd, good) with ALWARQA 5l 9th. JACKSON PARK 8l 2nd of 12 to Bellator in grade II novice hurdle over course and distance (good) with PRELUDE TO FAME (6lb worse off) [illegible] 6th. MELTEMISON 11l 8th to Always Happy in novice hurdle at Haydock (2m, good) with SOUSSE [illegible] 9th. ONYOUROWN beat Broken Rites [illegible] in handicap at Roscommon (1m 4f, yielding) on the Flat. OVERSMAN beat Los Alamos 6l in maiden at Southwell (AW, 1m 4f) on penultimate start with MELTEMISON [illegible] 3rd.
Selection: JACKSON PARK

2.40 SEBEL HOUSE GROUP CHASE
(Limited handicap £6,749: 2m) (5 runners)

401 1P1/3PP- SOUND REVEILLE 210 (D,G,S) (Mrs G Abecassis) C Brooks 8-11-7 ... G Bradley 86
402 4F10U-2 CLAY COUNTY 31 (CD,F,G,S) (The County Set) M Hammond 11-11-7 ... R Garritty 93
403 3004-05 NAKIR 14 (D,G,S) (J Lewis) D Nicholson 8-11-2 ... A Maguire 99
404 6/144P/ NATIVE MISSION 574 (D,G,S) (G Shoulet) J Fitzgerald 9-10-6 ... M Dwyer –
405 41FP-55 CUMBRIAN CHALLENGE 17 (CD,F,G,S) (Cumbrian Ind Ltd) T Easterby 7-10-7 ... L Wyer 87

Long handicap: Cumbrian Challenge 10-5

BETTING: 9-4 Nakir, 5-2 Sound Reveille, 3-1 Clay County, 11-2 Cumbrian Challenge, 6-1 Native Mission

1995: BELSTONE FOX 10-11-1 A Maguire (2-11) D Nicholson 2 ran

FORM FOCUS

SOUND REVEILLE best effort last term 20l 3rd of 9 to High Baron in handicap chase at Sandown (2m, good to firm). CLAY COUNTY 10l 2nd of 4 to Super Tactics in handicap chase at Kempton (2m, good). NAKIR about 14¾l 5th of 6 to Absalom's Lady in grade II William Hill Haldon Gold Challenge Cup Chase at Exeter (2m 1f 110yd, good to soft). CUMBRIAN CHALLENGE 13¾l last of 5 to Direct Route in handicap hurdle here (2m, good).
Selection: CLAY COUNTY

3.10 LAMBSON HANDICAP CHASE (£3,599: 3m 1f) (9 runners)

501 F4R-135 IFFEEE 31 (D,F,G,S) (T Morris) P Bowen 9-12-0 ... R Johnson 95
502 2/1F-1 SOUNDS STRONG 23 (CD,G) (Mrs D Thompson) D Nicholson 7-11-12 ... A Maguire 96
503 563211- ASTINGS 199 (G,S) (W Farrell) J Fitzgerald 8-11-7 ... M Dwyer 92
504 1011F-5 SEVEN TOWERS 8 (D,G,S) (Mrs E Murray) Mrs M Reveley 7-11-6 ... P Niven 99
505 F64PPF- FRONT LINE 207 (S) (J McManus) J J O'Neill 9-11-4 ... N Williamson 90
506 35414-4 LIE DETECTOR 11 (F,G) (Mr & Mrs R Green) C Parker 8-10-9 ... D Parker 92
507 310340 EAST HOUSTON 8 (D,F,G) (Highgreen Partnership) J J O'Neill 7-10-5 ... A Roche 96
508 P03F46 ROAD BY THE RIVER 567 (G,S) (T McDonagh Ltd) P Cheesbrough 8-10-2 ... A S Smith –
509 5P5545- SNOOK POINT 220 (C,G) (I Jordon) D Lamb 9-10-0 ... J Burke 85

Long handicap: Snook Point 8-8

BETTING: 5-4 Sounds Strong, 5-1 Astings, 6-1 Seven Towers, 7-1 Iffeee, 8-1 Front Line, 10-1 East Houston, 12-1 Lie Detector, 20-1 others

1995: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS

IFFEEE 23½l 3rd of 8 to General Crack in handicap chase at Chepstow (3m, good) on penultimate start. SOUNDS STRONG beat McGregor The Third 6l in 6-runner handicap chase over course and distance (good). ASTINGS completed double beat Toogood To Be True 8l in 7-runner handicap chase at Uttoxeter (3m 2l, good). SEVEN TOWERS about 19½l 5th of 10 to Parsons Boy in handicap chase at Carlisle (3m, good) with EAST HOUSTON 17½l 8th. LIE DETECTOR 11½l 4th of 6 to Buyers Dream in conditional jockeys' handicap chase at Hexham (2m 4f 110yd, good to firm). EAST HOUSTON about 6l 4th of 7 to Dark Oak in handicap chase at Market Rasen (3m 1f, good) on penultimate start.
Selection: SOUNDS STRONG

3.40 W CLIFFORD WATTS LTD CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,980: 2m 4f 110yd) (14 runners)

601 02021-4 THURSDAY NIGHT 13 (D,S) (R Haggas) J Fitzgerald 5-12-0 ... K Gaule 92
602 5224-43 DALLY BOY 18 (G) (T Bennett) T Easterby 4-11-12 ... D J Kavanagh (3) 94
603 1246-31 BEGGARS BANQUET 11 (D,F) (E Ruddock) P Beaumont 6-11-11 ... B Grattan (8) 91
604 1221P-4 RALITSA 17 (G) (Wetherby Racing Bureau 25) M Hammond 4-11-8 ... R Burns (10) 95
605 4/U23F3- ANOTHER VENTURE 213 (S) (R Wheeler) F Murphy 6-10-13 ... F Boyle (10) 90
606 0/0221-0 JOYRIDER 23 (F,S) (The Joyriders) Miss M Milligan 5-10-11 ... D Parker 90
607 000211- BARTON HEIGHTS 227 (D,G) (Miss C Ramm) Mrs M Reveley 4-10-10 ... M Herrington (10) 89
608 45555-1 DESERT FORCE 14 (F,G,S) (G Pierce) A Streeter 7-10-12 ... G Hogan 91
609 101501 TRIBUNE 19 (F,G) (Hexagon Racing) C Thornton 5-10-9 ... N Horrocks (10) 93
610 04044P- DANBYS GORSE 185 (S) (D Todd) J Jefferson 4-10-9 ... E Callaghan (3) 99
611 050601 TIP IT IN 12 (G,S) (Mrs M Ducasse) A Smith 7-10-5 ... M Newton (5) 89
612 030446- AUNTIE ALICE 199 (The East Riding Press) J Fitzgerald 6-10-0 ... G Lee 87
613 P/P5P66- MAJORITY MAJOR 176 (G) (J Jones) P Cheesbrough 7-10-0 ... D Walsh –
614 025440- TARGET LINE 313 (D,S) (Brampton Royal Oak) Mrs S Smith 6-10-0 ... R Wilkinson (8) 86

Long handicap: Majority Major 9-12, Target Line 9-7

BETTING: 4-1 Thursday Night, 9-2 Beggars Banquet, 5-1 Dally Boy, 6-1 Barton Heights, 7-1 Ralitsa, 8-1 Desert Force, 10-1 Tribune, 14-1 others

1995: MOONSHINE DANCER 5-11-6 G Cahill (Evens fav) Mrs M Reveley 6 ran

FORM FOCUS

THURSDAY NIGHT 6½l 4th of 6 to Cha-lo in handicap hurdle at Haydock (2m, good). DALLY BOY head and 2l 3rd of 5 to Burnt Imp in handicap hurdle over course and distance (good). BEGGARS BANQUET beat Papenson 1¼l in 9-runner novice hurdle at Hexham (2m 4f 110yd, good to firm). RALITSA about 3l 4th of 7 to Exemplar in handicap hurdle at Kelso (2m 6f 110yd, good to firm). DESERT FORCE beat Cosa Fuair 6l in 7-runner handicap hurdle at Warwick (2m 3f, good to firm). TRIBUNE beat Twin Falls 4l in 7-runner handicap hurdle at Sedgefield (2m 5f 110yd, good to firm). TIP IT IN beat Anabranch [illegible] in 6-runner conditional jockeys' handicap hurdle at Market Rasen (2m 1f 110yd, good).
Selection: DALLY BOY

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Runs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
M Tompkins	3	9	33.3	P Niven	43	167	[illegible]
D Nicholson	17	52	32.7	E Callaghan	5	[illegible]	[illegible]
Mrs M Reveley	45	163	28.2	R Johnson	5	[illegible]	[illegible]
G Richards	27	111	24.3	A Maguire	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
T Easterby	6	29	20.7	L Wyer	32	[illegible]	[illegible]
J Johnson	14	[illegible]	15.9	D Byrne	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Blinkered first time

LINGFIELD PARK: 1.20 Johns Act. 3.50 Charming Bride

TENNIS: SAMPRAS OOZES CONFIDENCE AS WORLD'S TOP EIGHT SQUARE UP FOR ATP CHAMPIONSHIP

Ailing Agassi in need of victory tonic

FROM DAVID MILLER
IN HANOVER

ANDRE AGASSI was confined to his hotel here yesterday, attempting to throw off a minor bug. The news of the draw for the World Championship of the Association of Tennis Professionals, contested by the eight front-ranked players of the year, will not have aided his recovery.

In the first year of this championship, 1990, Agassi was the winner, defeating *Stefan Edberg in four sets.* This week, as the climax of what for him has been a relatively bleak year — removed prematurely at Paris and Wimbledon, disappointingly surrendering to Michael Chang at Flushing Meadow — he finds himself in the same round-robin group as three present grand-slam champions: Boris Becker (Australian Open) Yevgeny Kafelnikov (French Open) and Pete Sampras (United States Open).

Admittedly, the other group is hardly less formidable: Chang, second to Sampras in the rankings, Goran Ivanisevic, the No 4, Thomas Muster, No 6, and Richard Krajicek, the Wimbledon champion and No 8. The opening matches today are Chang, last year's runner-up to Becker, against Krajicek; Becker, attempting to win for the third time, against Kafelnikov; and the smouldering, cannonball Ivanisevic against the clay-court ace, Muster. Agassi, therefore, is allowed more time to gather the strength he will undoubtedly need. The reserve is Thomas Enqvist, the world No 9.

The fifth-most prestigious tournament of the year, behind four grand-slam events, has seldom previously held such fascination, with contrasting players of six different nationalities; seven should Enqvist be summoned from the bench. The format is for each to play the other in his group, and the top two to meet opposite second-placed players in the semi-final.

With 710 ranking points awarded to a champion undefeated throughout, Sampras, the only man to have appeared in all seven championships, remains assured of being the world No 1 for the fourth consecutive year.

Were he to lose every match and Chang be undefeated, Chang would still be four points short of Sampras's present standing on 4,298. No player has ever secured the year's top spot by winning this title, though last year Sampras ensured it when reaching the semi-final.

Sampras finds the prospects comfortable. "It makes it a little bit more relaxing, that I've got it in the bag so to speak [No 1 for the year]," he said. "It's a very tough group, and there will be some unbelievable matches this week. Physically, I'm playing a lot better than this time last year [when he had to dig deep to help to win the Davis Cup against Russia]. But even if I don't win, I'll be happy with my year."

Sampras reflected that the ATP Championship rated somewhat short of the grand slams, lacking their history, but was nonetheless important — "a fifth major". He looked forward to another encounter with Becker. "Boris is tough, in Germany or out of Germany, but I've defeated him and the crowd before."

Krajicek, who leads head-to-head against Chang 3-2, is confident that his decline in form since Wimbledon will not be evident this week. "For two months after becoming Wimbledon champion, I was simply not fired up," he admitted. "But my tennis at present is feeling very good, and has been most of the time, but I haven't been able to convert it [into victory]."

Had Becker not suffered an injury during Wimbledon to his wrist, which was slow to mend, his form would have placed him in a position to challenge Sampras as the player of the year. He would be the first to reach three consecutive finals in this event, and his indoor record, with 29 titles, is stunningly superior to the next closest, Sampras with 14.

RED GROUP: B Becker (Ger), P Sampras (US), A Agassi (US), Y Kafelnikov (Russ). Today's match: Becker v Kafelnikov.

WHITE GROUP: M Chang (US), G Ivanisevic (Cro), T Muster (Austria), R Krajicek (Holl). Today's matches: Chang v Krajicek, Muster v Ivanisevic.

LTA nets £29 million

THE Lawn Tennis Association's *income from Wimbledon* rose this year to £29.1 million from last year's £27.9 million, giving the third richest governing body in Britain, behind football and rugby union, a gross income of £45.1 million (David Miller writes). That really ought to be enough to produce more than one Tim Henman.

Ian Peacock, the retiring chief executive, is pleased to announce continuing growth in the domestic game, *however much it may trail* Germany, France, Spain and lesser European nations: an increase over ten years in indoor courts from 216 to 776; a rise in worldwide match victories by British juniors from 36 in 100 in 1990 to 102 in 200 this year; sustained expenditure on development at £5.7 million; new facilities at £9.5 million; and an indicative steady rise in the sale of tennis balls.

Challengers lining up to test Graf's powers of recovery

Alix Ramsay looks at the contenders in the final WTA Tour event of the season

It is almost the end of term: Thanksgiving and Christmas are just around the corner and the leading lights of the women's tennis circuit are ready for a break. The Chase championships, the annual end-of-season jamboree that started last night, always have a restless feel to them as the top 16 women in the world gather at Madison Square Garden here in New York. With one week's work left to do, a maximum of four matches to play and $500,000 (about £303,000) waiting for the winner, everyone is demob happy.

The championships usually have an air of inevitability about them. Throughout their 18-year history, the player who has ruled the roost during the year has tended to win in New York; only Gabriela Sabatini, in 1994, and Sylvia Hanika, in 1982, have upset the odds. This year, however, promises to be different.

Steffi Graf, who has won here four times in the past nine years, retired in the final of the Philadelphia tournament on Sunday with a recurrence of the back injury that has plagued her over the past couple of years. Despite all the injury problems that she has had during her career — the back, the knee, the feet, the sinuses — it is only the second time that she has had to default during a tournament.

Graf is unlikely to surrender her title without a struggle. She travelled with her own masseur and chiropractor and, given the chance to rest for a couple of days in her Manhattan apartment, she is just as likely to waltz into Madison Square Garden and wipe the floor with the opposition as throw in the towel. After all, she won the French Open and Wimbledon last year with next to no practice and little faith in her physical ability to last the course.

The speculation over Graf's fitness should put a new spring in everyone's step. Her first opponent is Karina Habsudova, from Slovakia, a player for whom strategy is a dirty word. Her aim in every match is to belt the ball hard, play her own game and let the rest of the world worry about how to deal with it.

Jana Novotna has profited from Graf's misfortune. Graf lost the first set to her in Philadelphia 6-4 before the German retired, which gave Novotna her third title in five weeks. On an unbeaten run of 12 matches, her ranking has now climbed to a career high of No 3 in the world. During that spell she has also beaten Martina Hingis twice.

Hingis is the new kid on the block in New York. Although not an unknown quantity — she is coming to the end of her second year on the WTA Tour — the 16-year-old has grown up fast in the past few months. This year she has beaten most of the main contenders for the title and, two weeks ago, brushed aside Monica Seles 6-3, 6-0 to win her second title, in Oakland.

Hingis started to make the transition from being a promising new talent to becoming a winner in Rome earlier in the year. Then she beat Graf in the quarter-finals but, faced with the prospect of Conchita Martinez in the final, it all proved a little too much. The problem was in the mind.

That problem appears to have been solved. She won her first title in Filderstadt, Germany, last month, followed that up with an appearance in the final in Zurich and then, by winning in Oakland, took her career earnings past $1 million.

The championships will also mark the end of two famous careers. Sabatini, always a favourite with the New York crowd, retired officially two weeks ago but is making a brief appearance here to say goodbye to her followers. Kimiko Date will call it a day once her championships are over. How long that will take is a moot point. Her first opponent is Seles, but with the joint No 1 still troubled by a shoulder injury, Date could have to postpone the farewell until later in the week.

SHAUN BOTTERILL / ALLSPORT

Hingis, the new kid on the block in New York, recently secured her second tournament win

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CRICKET: AUSTRALIAN ACADEMY BATSMEN BRUSHED ASIDE BY IMPRESSIVE HARRIS

Vaughan leads England A canter

FROM A CORRESPONDENT
IN MOUNT GAMBIER

FINE fast bowling by Andrew Harris opened the door to victory for England A against the Australian Cricket Academy here yesterday. The Derbyshire player took five for 61 as the Academy were bowled out for 175 in their second innings, which left the touring side needing only 162 to win, a task they accomplished soon after tea with seven wickets in hand.

Ashley Giles began the Academy's collapse by bowling their captain, Justin Poole, in the fifth over of the final day before Harris began his impressive spell by having Shawn Craig caught behind.

Adam Smith was run out by Michael Vaughan in the same over and then Harris, who had taken the two wickets to fall on the third day, struck again by bowling Dominic Thornely and forcing Jerry Cassell, who hit eight fours and a six in his 69, to edge a catch to Hegg. Giles and the captain, Adam Hollioake, then finished off the innings.

Mark Butcher, the most impressive batsman on the tour so far, was overshadowed by Vaughan in a 56-run opening partnership which gave England A a good platform before Butcher perished, edging a lifting delivery to be caught behind. Vaughan, a model of composure, then added 54 with Owais Shah for the second wicket before being trapped leg-before, having hit 11 boundaries in his innings of 70.

Although Mark Ealham was caught at mid-wicket attempting to race to the finishing line, Shah, picked out for special mention by the Academy coach, Rodney Marsh, was unbeaten on 43 when Hollioake hit a four to finish the match.

☐ Australia have dropped Michael Slater for the first Test with West Indies starting in Brisbane on Friday, thus breaking up the third most prolific opening partnership in Test match history.

Slater's poor start to the season has seen him replaced by Matthew Elliott, of Victoria, who wins his first cap as partner to Mark Taylor, the Australia captain.

The Taylor-Slater partnership averaged 59.30, including ten century stands, the best being 260 at Lord's in 1993.

In their final match before the Test, the West Indies lost by ten wickets to an Australian XI in Hobart. Greg Blewett, Middlesex's new overseas player, took five for 29 as West Indies were bowled out for 251 in their second innings.

AUSTRALIA SQUAD: M A Taylor (captain), M T G Elliott, R T Ponting, M E Waugh, S R Waugh, M G Bevan, I A Healy, S K Warne, P R Reiffel, G D McGrath, M S Kasprowicz, J N Gillespie

MOUNT GAMBIER SCOREBOARD

AUSTRALIAN ACADEMY: First Innings 258 (M Dighton 72, S Craig 61; A F Giles 4 for 63)

Second Innings

J Cassell c Hegg b Harris	69
M Dighton lbw b Harris	4
A Carseldine c Hegg b Harris	21
*J Poole b Giles	7
S Craig c Hegg b Harris	1
A Smith run out	0
D Thornley b Harris	8
†E Haddin lbw b Giles	1
I Hewett c Vaughan b Hollioake	29
D Nash c Hegg b Hollioake	17
E Sutherland not out	1
Extras (b 5, lb 5, w 1, nb 6)	17
Total	175

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-20, 2-70, 3-91, 4-92, 5-92, 6-116, 7-125, 8-129, 9-162

BOWLING: Chapple 9-0-30-0; Harris 13-3-61-5; Ealham 5-1-18-0; Giles 10-1-38-2; Hollioake 4-0-20-2

ENGLAND A: First Innings 272 (M A Butcher 81, A J Hollioake 62; D Nash 7 for 66)

Second Innings

M A Butcher c Haddin b Hewett	14
M P Vaughan lbw b Craig	70
O A Shah not out	43
M A Ealham c Dighton b Craig	28
*A J Hollioake not out	4
Extras (lb 4, nb 2)	6
Total (3 wkts)	165

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-57, 2-112, 3-157.

BOWLING: Nash 11-3-45-0; Smith 7-2-13-0; Hewett 10-3-46-1; Sutherland 9-1-27-0; Craig 12.2-4-30-2.

Umpires: A Hunter and K Russell

SQUASH: BRITON BEATEN BY HOME TALENT IN SURPRISE OF OPENING ROUND

Chaloner retreats from glare of publicity

FROM COLIN MCQUILLAN
IN KARACHI

THE delight with which Mark Chaloner received attention at the world open championships in Cyprus last year as he progressed, unseeded and courageous, to the quarter-finals, was replaced with reclusive disappointment in this year's event here yesterday. Chaloner, 24, the No 8 seed, struggled to come to terms with a dire performance that left him a first-round casualty.

Chaloner's expected place against Anthony Hill, of Australia, in the second round was taken courtesy of a 15-12, 7-5, 15-6, 15-6 victory secured in 67 minutes by Zubair Jahan, the younger brother of Hiddy Jahan, a former world No 2.

Zubair, 24, from Pakistan, has matured of late from a lowly-ranked battlerto an astute tactician with a sure and merciless touch in the front court.He exploited a waywardness in the delivery of Chaloner, from Lincoln, that eventually led him to collect eight cleverly engineered penalty strokes in a row to clinch the match.

"Mark just didn't get it right," John Milton, Chaloner's coach, said. "He played too loose. He's feeling a bit devastated over his own incompetence."

Zubair meets Hill in the first match here today of a second round crammed with potential. Jansher Khan, the defending champion, heads the bill with a match against Jonathon Power, the young Canadian who has won the past two PSA World Tour events.

Del Harris, the England No 1, meets Craig Rowland, the Australian who surprisingly beat Jansher for a place in the tournament of champions final in New York last month, and Peter Nicol, the No 3 seed, from Scotland, plays Ahmed Barada, the talented young Egyptian.

Results, page 48

Theatre goes to court

The Trials of Marshall Hall. *Radio 2, 10.00pm.*

Hall was not, John Mortimer says, a great lawyer, but he was a superb advocate. A consummate actor, too. He could turn the Old Bailey into a theatre. Small wonder, then, that, at the end of the first of Michael Butt's dramatisations of the criminal barrister's cases, applause greets his closing address to the jury. In *The Black Trunk,* Hall, played by Tom Baker, defends a prostitute accused of murdering a client. It was the first murder trial that he fought single-handedly. John Mortimer, once a barrister himself, introduces and links this reconstruction of the trial of Marie Hermann which took place in 1894.

Death Discs. *Radio 2, 9.00pm.*

Alan Clayson's selection of recorded mood music "in a jugular vein", is not a laugh-a-minute affair, as the title indicates. All the songs feature folk who are either about to shuffle off our mortal coil or have already done so. The post-mortem songs are not all about dead human beings. There is a herd of red-eyed cows "who plough through ragged skies". The golden years — if that is the best way to describe ditties about the defunct — were the 1950s and 1960s. They included Nervous Norvus's *Transfusion* in which a road crash victim poetically requests medics to "slip the blood to me Bud" and "shoot the juice to me Bruce". Clayson makes me listen to "Three Blind Mice" through new ears.

Peter Davalle

RADIO 1

7.00am Chris Evans **9.00** Simon Mayo, includes the Golden Hour and Confessions **12.00** Lisa I'Anson, includes at **12.30pm-12.45** Newsbeat and at **1.40** The Soul Classic **2.00** Nicky Campbell **4.00** Mark Goodier, includes at **5.30-5.45** Newsbeat **7.00** Evening Session, with Jo Whiley and Steve Lamacq **9.00** Cling Film with Mark Kermode and Mary Anne Hobbs **10.00** Mark Radcliffe, live from Manchester **12.00** Claire Sturgess, includes **1.15am** The Net **4.00** Clive Warren, with the Early Breakfast Show

RADIO 2

6.00am Martin Kelner, includes Pause for Thought **7.30** Wake Up to Wogan **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Jimmy Young **1.30pm** Debbie Thrower **3.00** Ed Stewart **5.05** Helen Sharman **7.00** Hayes Over Britain **8.30** The Women In His Life (5/8) **9.00** Death Discs. See Choice **10.00** The Trials of Marshall Hall. See Choice **10.30** The Jamesons **12.05am** Steve Madden **3.00** Alex Lester, incl **3.30** Pause for Thought

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports, incl at **5.45** Wake up to Money **6.00** The Breakfast Programme, incl at **6.55**, **7.55** racing preview **8.35** The Magazine **12.00** Midday with Mair, incl at **12.35pm** Moneycheck **2.05** Ruscoe on Five **4.00** Nationwide **7.00** News Extra, incl at **7.20** Sports Bulletin **7.35** The Tuesday Match, with Mark Pougatch **10.05** News Talk **11.00** Night Extra **12.05am** After Hours **2.05** Up All Night

TALK RADIO

5.00am Early Breakfast **7.00** Paul Ross **9.00** Scott Chisholm **12.00** Anna Raeburn **2.00pm** Tommy Boyd **4.00** Drivetime, with Peter Deeley **7.00** Moz Dee's Sportszone **10.00** James Whale **1.00am** Ian Collins

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. News on the hour.
5.30am Europe Today **6.30** Global Gardening **6.45** Development '96 **7.15** Off the Shelf **7.30** New Ideas **7.50** Musical Copenhagen **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** Pick of the World **8.45** Good Books **9.05** World Business Report **9.15** Quote... Unquote **9.45** Sport **10.30** BBC English **10.45** Off the Shelf **11.30** Meridian Feature **12.05pm** World Business Report **12.15** Britain Today **12.30** Print the Legend **2.05** Outlook **2.30** Multitrack **3.05** Sport **3.15** History Today **3.30** Green History of the Planet **4.15** World Today **4.30** BBC English **4.45** Britain Today **5.30** World Business Report **5.45** Sport **6.30** Print the Legend **7.01** Outlook **7.30** Megamix **9.05** World Business Report **9.15** Britain Today **9.30** Meridian Feature **10.30** World Today **10.45** Sport **11.10** Voicebox **11.15** History Today **11.30** Megamix **12.30am** Folk Routes **12.45** Britain Today **1.30** Outlook **1.55** Words of Faith **2.30** Composer of the Month **3.15** Sport **3.30** Meridian On Screen **4.30** Europe Today

CLASSIC FM

4.00am Mark Griffiths **6.00** Mike Read **9.00** Henry Kelly **12.00** Susannah Simons **2.00pm** Lunchtime Concerto. Richard Strauss (Horn Concerto No 1 in D major) **3.00** Jamie Crick **6.00** Newsnight **6.30** Sonata. C.P.E. Bach (Trio Sonata in B flat major) **7.00** The Opera Guide **8.00** Evening Concert. Walton (Scapino: A Comedy Overture); Delius (North Country Sketches); Ravel (Piano Concerto in G); Bernstein (Symphony No 2, The Age of Anxiety) **10.00** Michael Mappin **1.00am** Mel Cooper

VIRGIN RADIO

6.00am Russ 'n' Jono **10.00** Graham Dene **1.00pm** Jeremy Clark **4.00** Nicky Horne **7.00** Paul Coyte (FM) / Robin Banks (AM) **10.00** Mark Forrest **2.00am** Randal Lee Rose

RADIO 3

6.00am On Air, with Andrew McGregor. Includes Brahms (Symphony No 3 in F minor); Haydn (Salve regina)
9.00 Morning Collection, with Peter Hobday. Includes Puccini (In Questa Reggia, Turandot); Busoni (Two Studies for Doctor Faust)
10.00 Musical Encounters. Includes Handel (Overture, Esther); Nauwach (Jetzund kompt die Nacht herbey)
12.00 Composers of the Week: Bartok and Kodaly. Includes Kodaly (The Viennese Musical Clock, Hary Janos and Psalmus Hungaricus); Bartok (Violin Sonata No 2, 2 mvt)
1.00pm News; The BBC Orchestras. BBC Philharmonic, conductor Charles Mackerras. Mahler, Symphony No 7
2.30 Ensemble. Includes Debussy (Images, Book 1); Szymanowski (Nocturne and Tarantelle) (r)
3.15 The BBC Orchestras. The BBC National Orchestra of Wales, conductor Owain Arwel Hughes, John Lill, piano. Beethoven (Overture, Leonore No 3); Rachmaninov (Piano Concerto No 2 in C minor); Rimsky-Korsakov (*Scheherazade*)
5.00 The Music Machine. Tommy Pearson listens to Ensemble Bash play orchestral percussion, African drums and junk instruments
5.15 In Tune. Includes Chabrier (Overture Gwendoline); Bach (Prelude and Fugue in G minor); Mozart (Symphony No 25 in G minor, K183)
7.30 Chamber Music from Manchester. The Brodsky Quartet, Michael Thomas and Ian Belton, violins, Paul Cassidy, viola, Jacqueline Thomas, cello, perform Prokofiev (String Quartet No 2, on Kabardinian Themes); Schubert (String Quartet in B flat, D112) **8.30** A Practical Utopia. Paul Allen visits Dean Clough in Halifax, once the largest carpet factory in Europe, now converted by businessman and pianist Sir Ernest Hall into a centre where commerce and the arts flourish **8.50** Concert, part 2 Shostakovich (String Quartet No 2, Op 68)
9.30 Outriders. Gillian Barlow, Slade artist turned flower painter, talks about alternative notions of culture
9.55 The BBC Orchestras. BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, conductor Martyn Brabbins, performs Tchaikovsky (Symphony No 1 in G minor, Winter Daydreams)
10.45 Night Waves. Geoffrey Hill, whose work addresses myth, history, legend and Christianity, talks about *Canaan,* his first collection of poems for a decade. Plus a review of the opening night of Zimmermann's opera *Die Soldaten,* performed by the English National Opera
11.30 Composers of the Week: Cherubini and Spontini (r)
12.30am Jazz Notes. Features the BBC Big Band playing clarinet classics
1.00am Through the Night. Includes **3.15** Something to Think About **3.30** The Song Tree **3.45** Stories and Rhymes **4.30** Hopscotch

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping (LW) 6.00 News Briefing **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today **8.40** Yesterday in Parliament **8.58** Weather
9.00 News 9.05 Call Nick Ross: 0171-580 4444
10.00 News; Walston Goes Walkabout (FM): A Mercedes in Moldova. Oliver Walston takes a spin through the poverty and poultry of Eastern Europe
10.00 Daily Service (LW)
10.15 On This Day (LW)
10.30 Woman's Hour, with Jenni Murray
11.30 Medicine Now, with Geoff Watts
12.00 News; You and Yours
12.25pm Hoax! The story-telling game with Tim Brooke-Taylor, Donald Sinden, Willie Rushton and Clare Francis **12.55** Weather
1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarke
1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping
2.00 News; Thirty Minute Theatre: Sex, Spies and Laverbread, by Tracy Spottiswoode. With Ri Richards, Mark Straker and Richard Elfyn
2.30 Comparing Notes with Brian Kay. The last in the present series includes Sarah Walker and Roger Vignoles in conversation
3.00 The Afternoon Shift, with Daire Brehan, Stuart Maconie and guests
4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope. Paul Vaughan visits the rebuilt Lyceum Theatre in London and considers what makes us buy, but never read, some books
4.45 Short Story: Fairy Story, written by Iain Grant. Read by Michael Elder
5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping **5.55** Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 Chambers. The final part of Clive Coleman's legal sitcom. With John Bird and James Fleet (r)
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 File on 4. Reports on topical issues with Julian O'Halloran
8.00 Science Now. The first of a new series presented by Alun Lewis. A look at the progress of nanotechnology (r)
8.30 The Ballad of Spitalfields Market. A musical documentary set into song by Rory McLeod
9.00 In Touch. News and features for the blind and partially sighted with Peter White
9.30 Kaleidoscope (r) **9.59** Weather
10.00 The World Tonight, with Isabel Hilton
10.45 Book at Bedtime: Lady Chatterley's Confessions. A sequel to D.H. Lawrence's novel by Elaine Feinstein. Read by Amanda Root (7/10)
11.00 Mediumwave. A look at the week's media events with Vincent Hanna (r)
11.30 I Was That Teenager (FM). Writer and broadcaster Helena Kennedy, QC, talks about her years spent growing up in Glasgow. With Hunter Davies (2/6) (r)
11.30 Today in Parliament (LW)
12.00 News incl **12.27am** Weather
12.30 The Late Book: The Shipping News, by E. Annie Proulx (7/10)
12.48 Shipping Forecast
1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE. MW 693, 909. WORLD SERVICE. MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO. MW 1053, 1089. Radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Ian Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and John McManners.

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Pure magic from the mysterious McHoans

A great moment in **The Crow Road** (BBC2) last night; the revelation of some important secrets, and a perfect debunking reaction: "That's it?" said Fergus to Rory, in disbelief. "That's your worst secret?" The problem with the McHoan family (as young Prentice acutely remarked last night) is that they "keep dying and taking their secrets to the grave". But this interchange between his drunken uncles was a fine place to ask why putting a skeleton in a cupboard makes it intrinsically more interesting than a skeleton left lying on the ground.

A secret (even a guilty one) can be quite banal, you see; it just depends which things you decide to keep to yourself. As a small child, I stopped an ice-cream van out of pure devilry (I didn't want an ice-cream) and the secret shame of it lasted 28 years. Secrecy makes ordinary events magically potent, which is perhaps the point of *The Crow Road*. At the same time, however, a really terrible act — such as the schoolboy Fergus shoving another boy's head into a glass cabinet — becomes commonplace just because it was never hushed up or denied.

So, a lesson there for Jeremy Thorpe, I'd say. Channel 4's **Secret Lives** last night was all about O what tangled webs he wove when first he practised to — er, whoops, no way out of it now — dissove. We all remember the unpleasant details, of course, though at this distance they seem even more surreal: "Bunnies can (and will) go to France"; woof, woof, bang; the chalk outline of a great dane drawn on a lonely moor; and a satirical summing-up from Peter Cook in a wig.

Thorpe is now remembered not so much as a politician but as a trial, so Roy Ackerman's film was actually most useful in reminding us of the former Liberal leader's early black-and-white years as a charismatic electioneer, carelessly vaulting fences like an athlete, or greeting voters with enthusiastic hugs, leaving them starry-eyed and breathless. Dressed hilariously in a dapper overall, he emerged at a shop counter in his constituency to be interviewed for television. (He was, ahem, minding the shop for friends.) "Some people might call this a political gimmick," said the interviewer, respectfully. "Well, it certainly didn't start that way," Thorpe assured him.

REVIEW

Lynne Truss

Is Thorpe's story a "tragedy of Shakespearean proportions"? Arguably, yes. But the film last night was not concerned with Thorpe's inner turmoil or fatal flaws, being more intent on getting witnesses to speak "for the first time on British television" — a phrase which is supposed to make you sit up and take notice, of course, but which often (like the presence of secrecy) builds hopes too high.

So here we had Thorpe's friends and financiers telling their versions of events. Meanwhile, Cyril Smith and David Steel were subtly undermined: Steel filmed with his tie askew; Smith shot from belly-level, so that his waistband appeared just below his chin. Interestingly, Andrew (bang, bang) Newton was one of the interviewees credited with speaking "for the first time since the trial" — which implies that everybody lost interest, that's all. One suspects Newton wouldn't need much persuasion to talk about shooting that dog. Getting him to stop talking about it might present the greater challenge.

The trouble with the Thorpe case as a subject for *Secret Lives* is that the secrets were already out, free and cantering, in what they call "the public domain" (I always picture a big field with primroses, if it helps). No deeper plot can be found in the Thorpe story, unless of course the South Africans really had something to do with it. According to Ackerman, an agent from Boss (working undercover in Fleet Street) was assigned to watch Thorpe — because the Liberal leader regularly spoke on racial issues and denounced apartheid.

Evidently, when Thorpe told Harold Wilson there was a Boss conspiracy, Wilson believed him — which lends plausibility until you remember the extent of Wilson's recently revealed paranoia. What Ackerman failed to mention was that if Thorpe had come along to the Prime Minister accusing spies in cunning canine guise, Wilson might have shot the dog himself.

Big emotions in the final part of **Vets' School** (BBC1). The beauteous but ditsy Norwegian student, Trude, resat her exams and (incredibly) passed them. Relief and horror in equal parts. Trude naturally broke down in tears and so did I — though I admit I was mainly thinking of all the unsuspecting small animals she was now technically qualified to manhandle. "Your degree is as good as anybody's," she was assured, which only made it worse.

Perhaps Trude just got nervous in front of the cameras, but as the weeks of her training progressed, the *Vets' School* audience was rarely disappointed by her hopeless diagnoses or wildly inaccurate answers to direct questions. Attempting to inject a kitten in the scruff of the neck, her needle kept coming out the other side. Trude wrestled with her self-confidence, as if veterinary knowledge was the lesser issue. Coming out of her oral exam, "I said so many stupid things," she laughed; "I was sitting there feeling *really blonde*."

Well, hastily leaving matters of pigment aside, I suppose we must accept that Trude was a much better student than she appeared on camera, and that Bristol University doesn't award degrees for sentimental reasons, or for fortitude, or for big blue eyes. But as I watched her tearfully reel from hug to hug ("I am so silly girl!"), I hugged my cats tight against me, and swore to protect them for ever.

BBC1

6.00am BUSINESS BREAKFAST (16093) **7.00 BBC BREAKFAST NEWS** (Ceefax) (47364) **9.00 BREAKFAST NEWS EXTRA** (Ceefax) (6116819)

9.20 STYLE CHALLENGE (s) (1243426)

9.45 KILROY (s) (8795600)

10.30 CAN'T COOK, WON'T COOK with Ainsley Harriet (s) (23109)

11.00 NEWS (Ceefax) (2588513)

11.05 THE REALLY USEFUL SHOW (s) (4279432)

11.45 SMILLIE'S PEOPLE (s) (6923884)

12.00 NEWS (Ceefax) (4849513)

12.05pm THE FLYING DOCTORS (Ceefax) (s) (2673074)

12.50 A DIFFERENT COUNTRY PRACTICE (r) (17514074)

1.00 NEWS (Ceefax) and weather (40451)

1.30 REGIONAL NEWS (14108242)

1.40 NEIGHBOURS (Ceefax) (s) (24019242)

2.00 CALL MY BLUFF (s) (8426)

2.30 THE TERRACE (s) (154)

3.00 INCOGNITO (s) (3161)

3.30 BRUM (3453426) **3.40 ROMUALD THE REINDEER** (7489616) **3.50 THE ALL NEW POPEYE SHOW** (8279451) **4.10 OSCAR'S ORCHESTRA** (5679890) **4.35 IT'LL NEVER WORK** (1827987) **5.00 NEWSROUND** (Ceefax) (6209797) **5.10 BYKER GROVE** (Ceefax) (2321797)

5.35 NEIGHBOURS (r) (Teletext) (s) (177819)

6.00 NEWS (Ceefax) and weather (703)

6.30 REGIONAL NEWS MAGAZINES (155)

7.00 HOLIDAY Jill Dando reports from the Grenadine Islands in the Caribbean, Sankha Guha samples San Remo in Italy and Sue Cook cruises Russia's lakes and rivers from St Petersburg to Moscow Monty Don stays on a farm in Wales and John Holdsworth goes Christmas shopping in France and Belgium (Ceefax) (s) (2242)

7.30 EASTENDERS Mayhem on the market causes Joe distress and Pat and Roy's wedding preparations are put in jeopardy again (Ceefax) (s) (567)

8.00 SPORTSNIGHT SPECIAL Desmond Lynam introduces live coverage of Newcastle United's third-round, first leg clash with the French club Metz in the Uefa Cup (s) (27711155)

9.55 NEWS (Ceefax) **REGIONAL NEWS** and weather (529905)

10.25 THE TRIAL OF KEVIN MAXWELL: A FAMILY STORY (Ceefax) (s) (1134797) **WALES: 10.25** Week In Week Out **10.55** The Trial of Kevin Maxwell **12.10am** Ruby Wax Meets the Duchess of York **12.45 FILM:** On The Streets Of LA **2.15** News

11.40 RUBY WAX MEETS THE DUCHESS OF YORK (r) (898890)

12.15am FILM: On the Streets of LA (1992) starring Louis Gossett Jr. Urban crime story about a father-son relationship that is rekindled in prison (608407)

1.45 FILM: Money Movers (1978) starring Terence Donovan. A security firm receives a tip-off that its vault is under threat from a gang of villains (696662)

3.15 WEATHER

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes
The numbers next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCode™ numbers, which allow you to programme your video recorder instantly with a VideoPlus+™ handset. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. Videoplus+ (™), Pluscode (™) and Video Programmer are trademarks of Gemstar Development Ltd.

BBC2

6.00am OPEN UNIVERSITY: Computers in Conversation (2452093) **6.25** Communications and the Future of Money (5661451) **7.15** See Hear Breakfast News (Ceefax and Signing) (6207258) **7.30** Perils of Penelope Pitstop (4975635) **7.55** Blue Peter (7403529) **8.20** Fireman Sam (3438068) **8.35** The Record (6716548) **9.00** Daytime on Two: Standard Grade English (6107161) **9.20** The Geography Programme (1241068) **9.45** Watch (3689744) **10.00** Playdays (58677) **10.30** Come Outside (3739890) **10.45** Science Zone (4256364) **11.05** Space Ark (2672906) **11.15** Clementine (7846155) **11.30** The English Collection (2971) **12.00** See Hear! (61613) **12.30** Working Lunch (33074) **1.00** Teaching Today (48093) **1.30** Showcase (14106884) **1.40** Hotch Potch House (24017884) **2.00** Fireman Sam (56242513)

2.10 THE FUGITIVE (5615906)

3.00 NEWS and weather (4955971)

3.05 WESTMINSTER (Ceefax) (6450426)

3.55 NEWS and weather (5755819)

4.00 TODAY'S THE DAY (628) **4.30 READY, STEADY, COOK** (Ceefax) (180) **5.00 THE OPRAH WINFREY SHOW** (Ceefax) (9135432) **5.40 PRUE LEITH'S TRICKS OF THE TRADE** (982838) **5.50 LIFELINE** (Ceefax) (s) (886616)

6.00 FRESH PRINCE OF BEL AIR (s) (179838)

6.25 HEARTBREAK HIGH (s) (556659)

7.10 THE STATE OF THE REGION — SPECIAL REPORT (720722) **WALES: The Economy**

8.00 UNIVERSITY CHALLENGE Cardiff v Queen's University, Belfast (Ceefax) (s) (2432)

8.30 FOOD AND DRINK Includes a test of flavoured beers (Ceefax) (s) (1567)

9.00 SYKES: The Spy Ring (r) (4906) **WALES: When Rover Met BMW 9.30 The Way It Is 10.00-10.30 Skyes**

9.30 WHEN ROVER MET BMW: A Job for Life (s) (53838)

10.00 NEVER MIND THE BUZZCOCKS Comedy pop quiz (Ceefax) (s) (11172)

10.30 NEWSNIGHT (Ceefax) (241548)

Designer Mark Powell (11.15pm)

11.15 SOHO STORIES: Brush with the Law Fashion designer Mark Powell gets caught driving while banned, tempering his good mood at the news that business is booming (s) (753513)

12.00 THE MIDNIGHT HOUR (s) (36778)

12.30am-6.00 LEARNING ZONE: O U: THE EFFECTIVE MANAGER (39010) **1.00 IN SEARCH OF IDENTITY** (46730) **1.30 A NEW WAY OF LIFE** (93136) **2.00 NIGHTSCHOOL** (87759) **4.00 BBC FOCUS: TEACHING AND LEARNING WITH IT** (71001) **4.30 TEACHING AND LEARNING WITH IT** (67223) **5.00 INSIDE EUROPE** (19198) **5.30-6.00 FILM EDUCATION** (37407)

CHOICE

When Rover Met BMW

BBC 2, 9.30pm

How times have changed at the Longbridge car plant. When Rover was part of British Leyland work was plentiful, strikes were frequent and militants ruled the shopfloor. Now, with 20,000 people chasing 1,200 jobs, the company can pick and choose and applicants are grateful for anything. One says he would be willing to do a month's work for nothing. Another says getting a job would be like winning the National Lottery. Whether this turnaround is due to Rover's new German master, or a changed economic climate, the film does not make clear. But if there are no German accents to be heard, the new work culture has an un-British feel. Assembly line workers are called production associates, demarcation lines have gone and no longer can the tedium of repetitive work by relieved by a quick fag.

The Trial of Kevin Maxwell: A Family Story

BBC1, 10.25pm (Northern Ireland, Wales and Scotland, 11.00pm)

The BBC seems determined to do right by the Maxwells. Having recently mounted a highly unflattering critique of Captain Bob, it now allows son Kevin the chance to give his story at similar length. Nadia Haggar's film is a sympathetic, some would say flattering, portrait of Kevin, his wife Pandora and their children as they await his trial at the Old Bailey. Kevin projects himself as an innocent persecuted by the media. The kids are teased at school and even the formidable Pandora snaps under the strain. "What upsets me most," Kevin says, "is the notion that my father and I and other people would sit round a table plotting to rob old-age pensioners. It is the most obscene idea." Kevin is convinced he will not get a fair trial. But the jury confounds this gloomy prediction and sugary strings accompany celebrations of the acquittal.

The Bill: Death of a Nobody

ITV, 8.00pm

The police show is famous for getting the maxium amount [illegible] into the minimum amount of time [illegible], now and again, to spread out. Not that this double-length episode is in any way discursive. As usual we get to the point at once and the pace never slackens. Tom Needham's scenario starts with the murder of a taxi driver, a seemingly blameless man who grew vegetables and sang in the church choir. From this initial puzzle, the plot goes teasingly off in unexpected directions. If recent *Bill* stories have tended to favour the uniforms over the CID, this one more than compensates, with pivotal roles for two of the most credible characters, DCI Meadows (Simon Rouse) and DI Deakin (Shaun Scott).

Network First: Psychosurgery

ITV, 10.40pm

Radical surgery which will destroy part of the brain is the desperate last resort for Marilyn, Tony and Peter. All suffer from severe depression which has wrecked their lives and driven them to contemplate, or attempt, suicide. Conventional treatments, including drugs and electro-convulsive therapy, have failed. But psychosurgery, which can be defined as damaging the brain to save the mind, is controversial. Some say it is barbaric. Even its supporters claim only a one-third success rate. Not even the surgeons who carry it out know how or why it works. None of this deters Marilyn, Tony and Peter, who are determined to have the surgery. Nick Finnis's film takes us into the operating theatre, an experience not for the squeamish, and revisits the trio six months later to assess the effects. **Peter Waymark**

HTV

6.00am GMTV (1705093)

9.25 SUPERMARKET SWEEP (1324345)

9.55 REGIONAL NEWS (Teletext) (2060242)

10.00 THE TIME . . . THE PLACE (s) (22513)

10.30 THIS MORNING (24142548)

12.20 REGIONAL NEWS (4845797)

12.30 NEWS and weather (Teletext) (4084567)

12.55 SHORTLAND STREET (s) (4069258) **1.25 HIGH ROAD** (Teletext) (7965819) **2.00 HOME AND AWAY** (Teletext) (s) (57044068) **2.25 CROSS WITS** (Teletext) (s) (57129703) **2.50 VANESSA** (Teletext) (s) (6930093)

3.20 NEWS (Teletext) (4035161)

3.25 REGIONAL NEWS (4034432)

3.30 POTAMUS PARK (3544722) **3.40 WIZADORA** (7301884) **3.50 ZOT THE DOG** (3555838) **4.05 GARFIELD AND FRIENDS** (9554567) **4.15 HEY ARNOLD!** (5670529) **4.40 THE WARD** (4021548)

5.10 WHAT'S MY LINE? (7329277)

5.40 NEWS and weather (Teletext) (513242)

6.00 HOME AND AWAY (r) (Teletext) (s) (166364)

6.25 HTV NEWS (Teletext) (324277)

7.00 EMMERDALE Rachel finds herself in trouble with Steve (Teletext) (s) (7398)

7.30 THE MIDDLE AGES: Broken Lives Ray Gosling meets three middle-aged people who all lost jobs they thought would see them through to retirement (r) (635)

Shaun Scott investigates (8.00pm)

8.00 CHOICE **THE BILL** Meadows (Billy Murray) and Deakin (Shaun Scott) investigate the murder of a taxi driver (Teletext) (1600)

9.00 SOLDIER, SOLDIER Angela McCleod's life is shattered when a former girlfriend of her husband arrives with some devastating news (Teletext) (s) (4364)

10.00 NEWS and weather (Teletext) (11118)

10.30 REGIONAL NEWS (Teletext) (442890)

10.40 CHOICE **NETWORK FIRST** Tony, Marilyn and Peter, who have all suffered years of mental torment, are about to undergo psychosurgery — a last and very risky resort. The surgery involves deliberately damaging the brain to affect the mind (Teletext) (434161)

11.40 CELLULOID BRIEFS (s) (412819)

12.10am ALFRED HITCHCOCK PRESENTS (4777488)

12.40 NATIONWIDE FOOTBALL LEAGUE EXTRA (2354575)

1.25 FILM: THE KILLING TIME (1987) starring Beau Bridges, Kiefer Sutherland and Wayne Rogers. A small-town sheriff plans the ultimate crime of passion. Directed by Rick King (491952)

3.05 LATE & LOUD (s) (1245310)

4.05 THE CHART SHOW (r) (s) (3032117)

5.00 SPECIAL REPORT (39952)

5.30 NEWS (24933)

CENTRAL

As HTV West except:

12.55pm HOME AND AWAY (4069258)

1.25 CROSS WITS (39625258)

1.55 A COUNTRY PRACTICE (24196345)

2.20 VANESSA (57048884)

2.50-3.20 FROM THE GROUND UP (6930093)

5.10-5.40 SHORTLAND STREET (7329277)

6.25 CENTRAL NEWS AND WEATHER (324277)

7.30-8.00 TUESDAY SPECIAL (635)

11.40 HIGHLANDER (111513)

12.40am Film: LUCAS (445579)

2.30 LATE & LOUD (2959865)

3.25 FUNNY BUSINESS (67089049)

4.30 JOBFINDER (5896952)

WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except:

12.55 EMMERDALE (4069258)

1.25-1.55 CROSSWITS (39625258)

1.55 HOME AND AWAY (29879819)

2.25 VANESSA (57047155)

2.55 A COUNTRY PRACTICE (1385109)

5.10-5.40 HOME AND AWAY (7329277)

6.00 WESTCOUNTRY LIVE (45819)

7.30-8.00 BLOOMING MARVELLOUS (635)

11.40 PRISONER CELL BLOCK H (111513)

MERIDIAN

As HTV West except:

12.55 CROSS WITS (4069258)

1.25 HOME AND AWAY (39625258)

1.55 SHORTLAND STREET (24196345)

2.20 VANESSA (57048884)

2.50-3.20 ON YOUR MARKS (6930093)

5.10 HOME AND AWAY (7329277)

6.00 MERIDIAN TONIGHT (971)

6.30 WHAT'S MY LINE? (451)

7.30-8.00 CROWN AND COUNTRY (635)

11.40 PRISONER CELL BLOCK H (111513)

ANGLIA

As HTV West except: 12.55pm CROSS WITS (4069258) **1.25 HOME AND AWAY** (39625258) **1.55 JUSTICE OF THE LAND** (24196345) **2.20 VANESSA** (57048884) **2.50-3.20 CRAWSHAW PAINTS CONSTABLE COUNTRY** (6930093) **5.10-5.40 SHORTLAND STREET** (7329277) **6.30 ANGLIA NEWS** (451) **7.30-8.00 OUT TO LUNCH WITH BRIAN TURNER** (635) **11.40 WISEGUY** (111513)

S4C

Starts: 6.30am ADVENTURES IN ODYSSEY (58613) **7.00 THE BIG BREAKFAST** (30074) **9.00 HERE'S ONE I MADE EARLIER** (10635) **9.30 YSGOLION** (425780) **12.00 HOUSE TO HOUSE** (27971) **12.30pm TRUMPTON** (17906600) **12.45 ALFIE ATKINS** (17901155) **1.00 SLOT MEITHRIN** (33161) **1.30 MAKING MONEY** (14288432) **1.45 Film: HELLCATS OF THE NAVY** (887513) **3.15 RICKI LAKE** (6934906) **4.00 FIFTEEN-TO-ONE** (364) **4.30 TV DINNERS** (548) **5.00 5 PUMP** (8616) **5.30 COUNTDOWN: THE SEARCH FOR THE SUPREME CHAMPION** (600) **6.00 NEWYDDION** (969068) **6.05 HENO** (119822) **6.35 SION A SIAN** (333109) **7.00 POBOL Y CWM** (444074) **7.25 BRODYR BACH** (602987) **8.00 HEATHER** (4600) **8.30 NEWYDDION** (6635) **9.00 ACHABACHYN** (873600) **9.45 POBL Y PWLL** (974432) **10.00 BROOKSIDE** (909890) **10.35 DROP THE DEAD DONKEY** (175600) **11.05 NORTHERN EXPOSURE** (546635) **12.30am WITNESS: DEATH IN THE FAMILY** (39038) **1.00 IN REMEMBRANCE: KEN SARO-WIWA** (54846)

CHANNEL 4

6.30am ADVENTURES IN ODYSSEY (58613) **7.00** The Big Breakfast (30074) **9.00** Here's One I Made Earlier (10635) **9.30** Schools. Eureka! **9.45** Stop Look Listen **10.00** Fourways Farm **10.10** TVM **10.25** How We Used to Live **10.45** Caraidean **11.00** The New Living Body **11.20** Stage One **11.37** Lost Animals **11.45** First Edition (425780) **12.00** House to House (s) (27971) **12.30pm** Trumpton (r) (17906600) **12.45** Alfie Atkins (17901155) **1.00** Sesame Street (5990884) **1.55** The Living Sea (Teletext) (s) (29860161)

2.25 FILM: The Badlanders (1958) Western with Ernest Borgnine and Alan Ladd. When a goldmine belonging to a farmer and a geologist is stolen from them by a shady entrepreneur, they join forces to reclaim it (Teletext) (632635)

4.00 FIFTEEN-TO-ONE (Teletext) (s) (364) **4.30 COUNTDOWN** (Teletext) (s) (548) **5.00 RICKI LAKE** (Teletext) (s) (5993432) **5.45 ANTON MOSIMANN — NATURALLY** (Ceefax) (967529)

6.00 THE AVENGERS (r) (Teletext) (36161)

7.00 CHANNEL 4 NEWS (Teletext) (442432)

7.55 THE SLOT (696155)

8.00 RIDE ON The team expose big companies who sell exactly the same car at different prices (Teletext) (s) (4600)

8.30 BROOKSIDE Will Bel and Ollie reveal all to the police? (Teletext) (s) (6635)

9.00 TIGER SHARK: Legendary Thug of the Sea Charting the lifestyle of a single tiger shark along the Great Barrier Reef (Teletext) (2906)

Dale Winton guests for Gus (10.00pm)

10.00 DROP THE DEAD DONKEY Gus plans a dinner in honour of Sir Roysten. Includes a guest appearance by Dale Winton (Teletext) (s) (909890)

10.35 WHOSE LINE IS IT ANYWAY? Clive Anderson leads the improvised comedy show (r) (175600)

11.05 NORTHERN EXPOSURE After accidently drinking a "healing" liquid Joel is propelled into an alternative reality in New York (Teletext) (662839)

12.00 LUMBERJACKS OK! First in a six-part series from Canada following 16 of the world's top-logger sportsmen (21846)

12.30am MARCO POLO NOT! Frances Wood, head of the Chinese department at the British Museum, questions whether Marco Polo ever reached China (s) (39038)

1.00 THE WHITE ROOM Featuring performances by Paul Weller and Elvis Costello (r) (s) (6221643)

2.05 MR ROADRUNNER Jools Holland visits Tennessee and Mississippi in search of "the lost chord" (r) (s) (1167827)

3.25 FILM: Holiday in Mexico (1946) starring Jane Powell and Walter Pidgeon. A girl becomes infatuated with a pianist. Directed by George Sidney (31218223)

SATELLITE AND CABLE

● For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Directory, published on Saturday

SKY 1

[illegible]

SKY 2

[illegible]

SKY NEWS

[illegible]

SKY MOVIES

[illegible]

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

[illegible]

SKY MOVIES GOLD

[illegible]

THE DISNEY CHANNEL

[illegible]

SKY SPORTS 1

[illegible]

SKY SPORTS 2

[illegible]

SKY SPORTS 3

[illegible]

EUROSPORT

[illegible]

GRANADA PLUS

[illegible]

Neeson and Kingsley compile the list (Movie Channel, 8.00pm)

GRANADA GOOD LIFE

From 6.00am-6.00 TV High Street. Includes consumer news and features and Your Stars presented by Russell Grant **From 6.00-12.00 Food and Wine.** Includes recipes and ideas from Delia Smith **From 12.00-3.00pm Health and Beauty.** Includes Natural Health **From 3.00-6.00 Home and Garden.** Includes The Good Life Style Guide

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

4.00pm Biography: Bob Dole (2258884) **5.00** Drawing Passion (2188616) **6.00** The World at War (1532287) **7.00-8.00** Biography. The Kennedys Week (4722971)

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

Films, features and classic series every day from 9pm-4am Monday to Wednesday and 1am-4am Thursday to Sunday on satellite, and from 9am-4am every day on cable **8.00pm** Steven Spielberg's Amazing Sto[illegible]

UK GOLD

[illegible]

TLC/DISCOVERY

[illegible]

NICKELODEON

[illegible]

PARAMOUNT

[illegible]

BRAVO

[illegible]

UK LIVING

[illegible]

FAMILY CHANNEL

[illegible]

MTV

The 24 hour music channel. Includes news, reviews, live concert footage, interviews and the latest music video charts

VH-1

The video hits channel. Classic rock and pop videos and the best new tunes

ZEE TV

[illegible]

CARTOON NETWORK/TNT

Continuous cartoons from 5am to 9pm, then TNT films as below. 9.00pm Please Don't Eat the Daisies (1960) [illegible] **11.00 The Sunshine Boys** (1975) [illegible] **The Secret of My Success** (1965) [illegible] **Please Don't Eat the Daisies** (1960) [illegible]

AMERICAN FOOTBALL 48

Young pretender takes lead role for San Francisco

SPORT

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 19 1996

TENNIS 50

Graf's supremacy put to the test by Hingis and Co

Australians angered by approach

Venables runs into protest over job offer

By Russell Kempson

TERRY VENABLES, the former England football coach, is still considering whether to accept the job of attempting to lead Australia into the World Cup finals in France in 1998. Venables spoke yesterday with David Hill, the chairman of Soccer Australia, and is expected to announce his decision today.

If Venables agrees to return to international management, Hill would have to have the move ratified by the board of Soccer Australia, the governing body in that country. Such is the influence of Hill, the former head of ABC, the country's *national television* network, that it is thought unlikely that his fellow board members would vote against him.

Hill is believed to have also targeted Jack Charlton, the former Ireland manager, and Howard Wilkinson, the former Leeds United manager, before travelling to Europe. When initial overtures proved fruitless, he turned his attentions to Venables, who led England to the semi-finals of Euro 96 before standing aside *for Glenn Hoddle.*

News of a prospective Pommie coach has not gone down well with Australians. In a poll held by the television channel, SBS, 34 per cent of the 2,800 votes were in favour of Venables taking over. Those against included a Mr Angry, of Adelaide, who wrote: "I am appalled that such scant regard can have been paid to those who have contributed so much to Australian soccer over the past years. The arrogance of Venables is only matched by that of David Hill. He [Hill] has treated us all with contempt."

Questions are also being asked as to how Soccer Australia will fund Venables's reported £200,000 salary, for possibly no more than four months' work. Eddie Thomson, who recently resigned from the job after six years, received only £90,000 a year.

Such is the association's financial plight that every player in Australia pays Aus$1 towards the running of the *national team. A month* ago, callers were unable to get through to Soccer Australia's headquarters in Sydney because, it is believed, the telephone bill had not been paid.

Jack Reilly, the former Australia goalkeeper, led the Pommie-bashing brigade yesterday. "It is totally inconceivable, an absolute farce," he said. "Venables knows nothing about Australian conditions and little or nothing about our overseas and local players."

However, Andy Bernal, the Reading defender and one of 22 Australian players based in England, said: "Terry is a great choice, really exciting. He can bring a new dimension to *Aussie* soccer. *If you're* running a business, you have to go for the best man, and you can't get much better than Terry. Maybe he can even fix up an Ashes series between England and Australia. That would be really something."

Venables, if he accepts, will have his cake and eat it, too. He will not give up his job at Portsmouth, where he is director of football. "It would not affect what I'm doing there," he said. "The Aussies are *happy with that and so are* Pompey."

Australia have qualified only once for the World Cup finals, in 1974. However, it is widely accepted that the qualifying series for 1998 represents their best chance for years. In the Oceania section second round, their opponents include Tahiti — who they beat 11-0 recently — and either Tonga or the Solomon Islands. If they negotiate a third-round play-off, probably against New Zealand, they take on the third-placed nation from the Asia zone qualifiers — perhaps Lebanon, coached by Terry Yorath, the former Wales manager. Then it is off to France.

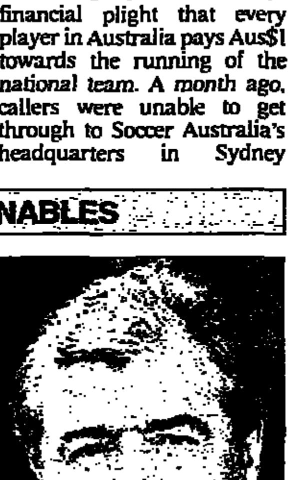
Venables was yesterday awarded a reviewed judgment in the Central London County Court over another company's claim against Scribes, the West London club that Venables owns, having previously been ordered to pay costs amounting to around £36,000. But other high-profile cases are still pending, including an action for libel by Alan Sugar, the Tottenham Hotspur chairman.

☐ Aston Villa will send a delegation to Italy this week in *an attempt to resurrect the* transfer of Savo Milosevic to Perugia. There have been suggestions that the *Serie A* side have dropped their original offer of £4.5 million to £2 million.

Ginola's home work 47
Greatest goal 47

TERRY VENABLES

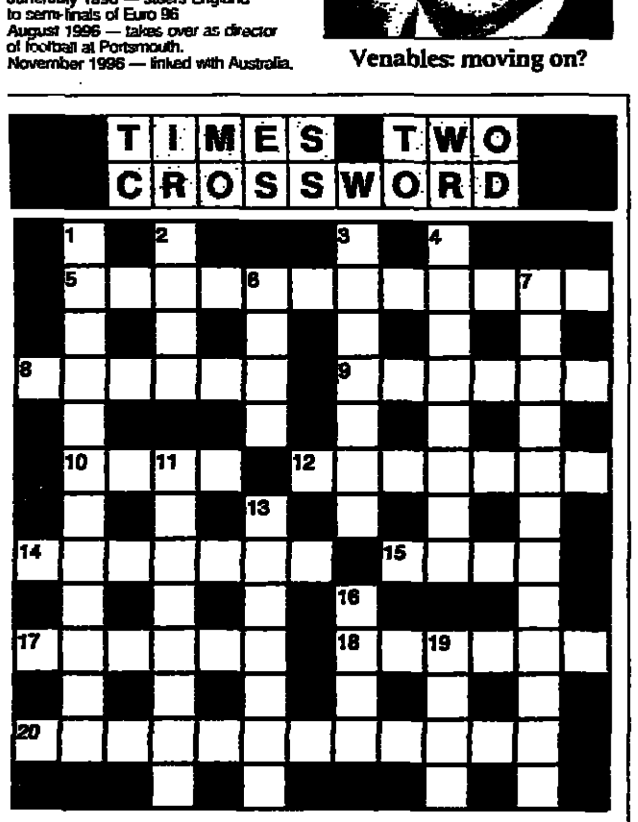
August 1960 — *signed professional* forms with West Ham United.
October 1964 — capped by England
June 1976 — appointed Crystal Palace manager.
October 1980 — resigned to take over at Queens Park Rangers.
May 1984 — appointed Barcelona manager
September 1987 — dismissed by Barcelona.
October 1987 — appointed Tottenham manager.
July 1991 — becomes chief executive of Tottenham.
June 1993 — dismissed as chief executive of Tottenham
January 1994 — appointed England coach.
June/July 1996 — steers England to semi-finals of Euro 96
August 1996 — takes over as director of football at Portsmouth.
November 1996 — linked with Australia.



Venables: moving on?

ADAM BUTLER / PA

Andy Gomarsall, who will win his first England cap against Italy, in action at Bisham Abbey yesterday



No 943

ACROSS

5 *Street musician, had monkey* (5-7)
8 Parts of shoes; the poor on them (6)
9 Develop naturally (6)
10 Stained with writing fluid (4)
12 *Lose shine* (7)
14 Hummed and hawed (7)
15 Hop drink (4)
17 Be receptive (6)
18 Sudden, brusque (6)
20 Never-ending (12)

DOWN

1 *Factor adding confusion* (12)
2 (Malarial) shivering fit (4)
3 Non-serf: one honoured by city (7)
4 Make public (8)
6 Inquisitive (4)
7 *One trying to overhear* (12)
11 Sonata by Beethoven. Tolstoy (8)
13 Pseudonym (3-4)
16 One manipulated by another (4)
19 Red gem (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 942

ACROSS: 4 Lad 8 Leonora 9 Impel 10 Tread 11 Genteel 12 Humanoid 14 Beam 15 Gory 16 Ignorant 20 Gilbert 21 Wring 23 Latin 24 Collect 25 Yak

DOWN: *1* Clutch 2 Yoke 3 Cordon 4 Laughing stock 5 Diana 6 Ephemera 7 Slalom 13 Morality 15 Giggle 17 Orwell 18 Tights 19 Jenny 22 Item

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ABA vote in favour of girls boxing

THE Amateur Boxing Association (ABA) yesterday decided to end 116 years of tradition by allowing women and girls to box in bouts in England for the first time. The ABA's *decision, on a 10-4 majority,* means the body falls in line with the rest of Europe, but the controversial move has angered the Association's medical commission.

Dr Roy Axon, the chairman of the commission, who voted against the change, said: "We are waiting from the European Commission on Boxing and we will take it from there. Meanwhile, the ruling body has decided that women should box and we have to accept its decision."

The ABA commission will meet on Friday to discuss the matter, which allows girls from the age of 10 to spar in amateur gyms to prepare for bouts from next October.

The move came on the day of the death of Fabrizio De Chiara, the Italian middleweight. The 25-year-old collapsed in the last round of the 12-round Italian title contest in Carrara, on Saturday.

☐ Scott Welch, the former British champion, is set to face Henry Akinwande, the unbeaten World Boxing Organisation heavyweight champion, in Palm Springs, California, on January 11.

Leinster aim to upset tour record

From Karl Johnston
in Dublin

TO Leinster went the distinction of providing the first opposition when Australia last toured Ireland, in 1992. At Lansdowne Road, the home team got away to a fine start with an early try scored by Niall Woods, but the sense of euphoria was short-lived.

Australia went on to overwhelm Leinster 38-11, running in five tries. Leinster will be striving to do better when the teams meet under lights at Lansdowne Road this evening, in the unbeaten Australians' third match in Ireland on the present visit, but the touring side will not be easily contained.

True, the Australians have fallen way short of the levels of excellence attained by their recent predecessors, whose *élan and panache have been* notably missing. But, even though Connacht and especially Ulster were dogged opponents, the Australians never looked remotely like losing either of those matches.

Leinster show four changes compared with the team that defeated Pau in the Heineken Cup recently. Three of the alterations are enforced, since Niall Hogan, Henry Hurley and Paul Wallace were not available because they were with the national squad.

Alain Rolland returns at scrum half instead of Hogan, while Paul Flavin and Angus McKeen deputise for Hurley *and Wallace at loose and tight* head, respectively. Rolland's recall is not likely to bother the selectors, for they consistently chose him ahead of Hogan until recently, but the first-choice props may be missed.

In the fourth change, Ciaran Clarke comes on at full back in place of Peter McKenna. Clarke and Martin Ridge are the only survivors from the 1992 team, while Jason Little and Tim Gavin played for the Australians in that match.

Only Michael Brial and Brett Robinson remain from the Australian side that defeated Ulster on Saturday but, with Little and Pat Howard *back after injury, this* team looks far too strong to be caught napping by Leinster.

The Australian management have sent for Dan Crowley to fill the place of the injured prop Richard Harry, who is going home. The experienced Crowley last toured Ireland in 1992.

For their match against the Australians in Thomond Park next Tuesday, the Munster selectors will field the side that lost to Toulouse in the Heineken Cup. Four of the team will play for Ireland in the international clash on Saturday — David Corkery, *Gabriel Fulcher, Anthony* Foley and Dominic Crotty.

The Leinster Under-21 team take on the New Zealand News Under-21 invitation side at Donnybrook today. The New Zealanders have already lost to Munster and Ireland.

LANSDOWNE ROAD TEAMS

LEINSTER: C Clarke (Terenure College); D Hickie (St Mary's College), M Ridge *(Moseley), K McQuilkin (Lansdowne), D* O'Mahony (Moseley); A McGowan (Blackrock College), A Rolland (Moseley); P Flavin (Blackrock College), M McDermott (Lansdowne), A McKeen (Lansdowne), C Pim (Old Wesley, captain), M O'Kelly (London Irish), N Francis (Old Belvedere), D Oswald (Blackrock College), V Costello (London Irish). Replacements: P McKenna (Old Belvedere), R McIlreavy (St Mary's College), E McCormack (St Mary's College), E Byrne (St Mary's College), A N Other, S Rooney (Lansdowne).

AUSTRALIA XV: S Larkham (Australian Capital Territory); B Tune (Queensland), J Little (Queensland), R Tombs (New South Wales), A Murdoch (NSW); P Howard (ACT), S Payne (NSW); C Blades (NSW), A Caputo (ACT), A Heath (NSW), O Finegan (NSW), D Giffin (ACT), T Gavin (NSW), B Robinson (ACT, captain), M Brial (NSW). Replacements: A N Other, T Wallace (NSW), G Gregan (ACT), A N Other, A Blades (NSW), M Foley (Queensland).

Giddins brought in from cold by Warwickshire

By Pat Gibson

ED GIDDINS, the England A fast bowler who was suspended for 19 months by the Test and County Cricket *Board after he tested positive* for cocaine, has not had to wait long for a chance to resurrect his career.

Only ten days after his appeal against the severity of his punishment was rejected by the Cricket Council, he has agreed to sign a three-year contract to play for Warwickshire when he completes his suspension at the start of the 1998 season. He will be paid a retainer while he practises in the Edgbaston nets and plays league cricket in the south of England.

The transformation of Giddins from a pariah — he was sacked by Sussex — into a much coveted cricketer may seem to have come about with almost indecent haste. But fast bowlers, especially English ones, are in such short supply that such a scramble for his services was inevitable. Giddins was courted by nine other counties as well as Warwickshire.

"Tim Munton [the captain] initially approached me a month ago," Giddins said yesterday, "and I met the chief executive, Dennis Amiss, last Thursday to sort out the finer details of the contract. I felt a buzz just walking into Edgbaston. Warwickshire have been the most successful *side in county cricket over the* last three or four years and there is no reason why that should not continue."

The drugs episode discouraged overseas clubs from offering Giddins employment this winter, but Warwickshire had no doubts. "That is all behind him now," Amiss said. "He realises that he made a mistake.

"He is really focused and he has convinced us that cricket is his future. He not only wants to do a good job for Warwickshire but he also wants to go on and play for England. I believe that we can help him to do that."

Giddins: second chance

While Sussex were not sorry to see the back of Giddins — *or so it seemed when their* secretary, Nigel Bett, said that there were not too many tears shed on his departure — they did everything they could to keep Ian Salisbury, their England leg spinner.

Yet, despite an unprecedented offer of a five-year contract with the promise of a benefit in the course of it, Salisbury has turned his back on them and agreed a three-year deal with Surrey, in the belief that the pace and bounce of the Oval pitches will help him to add to his nine England caps.

The beleaguered Bett said that Sussex were naturally disappointed, but added: "Ian has kept us fully aware of his plans. Now that his future is settled, we must plan for 1997 without him."

That is easier said than done. With Danny Law believed to be heading for Essex, Martin Speight talking to Durham and Alan Wells, the deposed captain, seeking permission to speak to other counties, Sussex are in disarray.

England A win, page 50

Argentina add extra dimension to season of confusion

By David Hands
Rugby Correspondent

THE amateurs of Argentina arrived in London yesterday amid the confusion that professionalism has produced in English rugby. With a polite acknowledgement of England's problems, they expressed the hope that they could develop a fluent style of rugby during their seven matches, the first of which is *against a London XV at* Twickenham tomorrow.

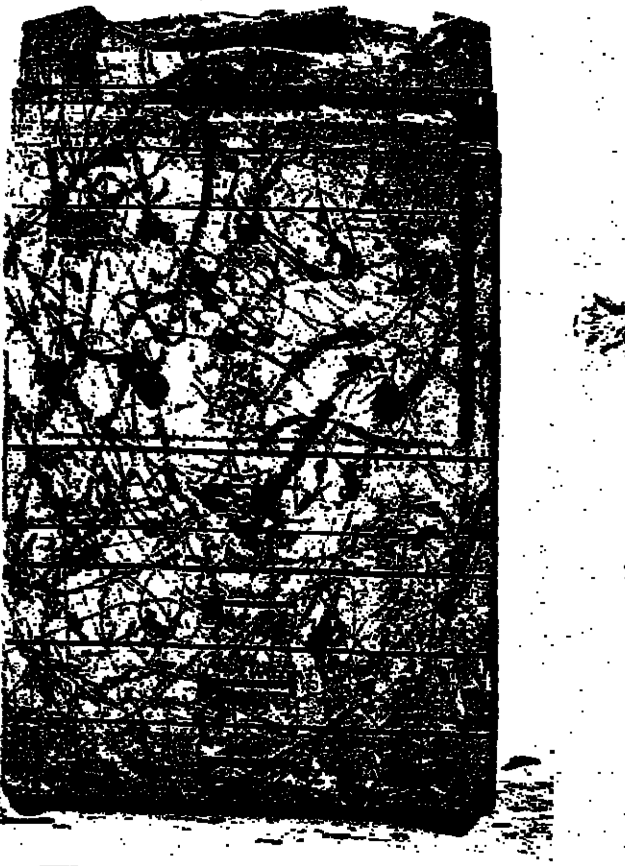
Yet even they may be surprised that their opponents will field one player from the seventh division and nobody higher than the third-division clubs of Havant and Rosslyn Park, with one exception — John Fowler, the Sale and England A lock who was selected by two divisions over the weekend but has opted for his "division of origin".

It is symptomatic of this season that such confusion should reign, though it is Fowler's own decision not to play for the North against Queensland tomorrow evening. At the same time, the edict of the English Professional Rugby Union Clubs not to release players for divisional duty is clearly optional since Sale, Orrell and West Hartlepool, of the first division, offer players to both divisions. The North have brought in Paul Rees, of Orrell, to replace Fowler.

Unless there is some dramatic change in the political circumstances, a similar London team will do duty against South Africa A on Saturday, the weekend when the fourth round of the Pilkington Cup will bring Esher and Rosslyn Park — who provide five of the London team — together.

In the meantime, England gathered at Bisham Abbey to prepare for the opening international of the season on Saturday, against Italy, optimistic that Mark Regan and Ben Clarke would be fit to play. Regan, the Bristol hooker, played his first game for four weeks for his club second XV at the weekend after recovering from a damaged thumb and was able to train with the national squad.

☐ Jonah Lomu, the New Zealand wing, will make a guest appearance for Ebbw Vale against a Welsh Invitation XV at Eugene Cross Park on December 4.



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هكذا من الاصل

They're sexy, they're talented, they're highly strung, they're the biggest thing since the Sloane Ranger, they're the ...

Portobello Princesses

Justine Frischmann

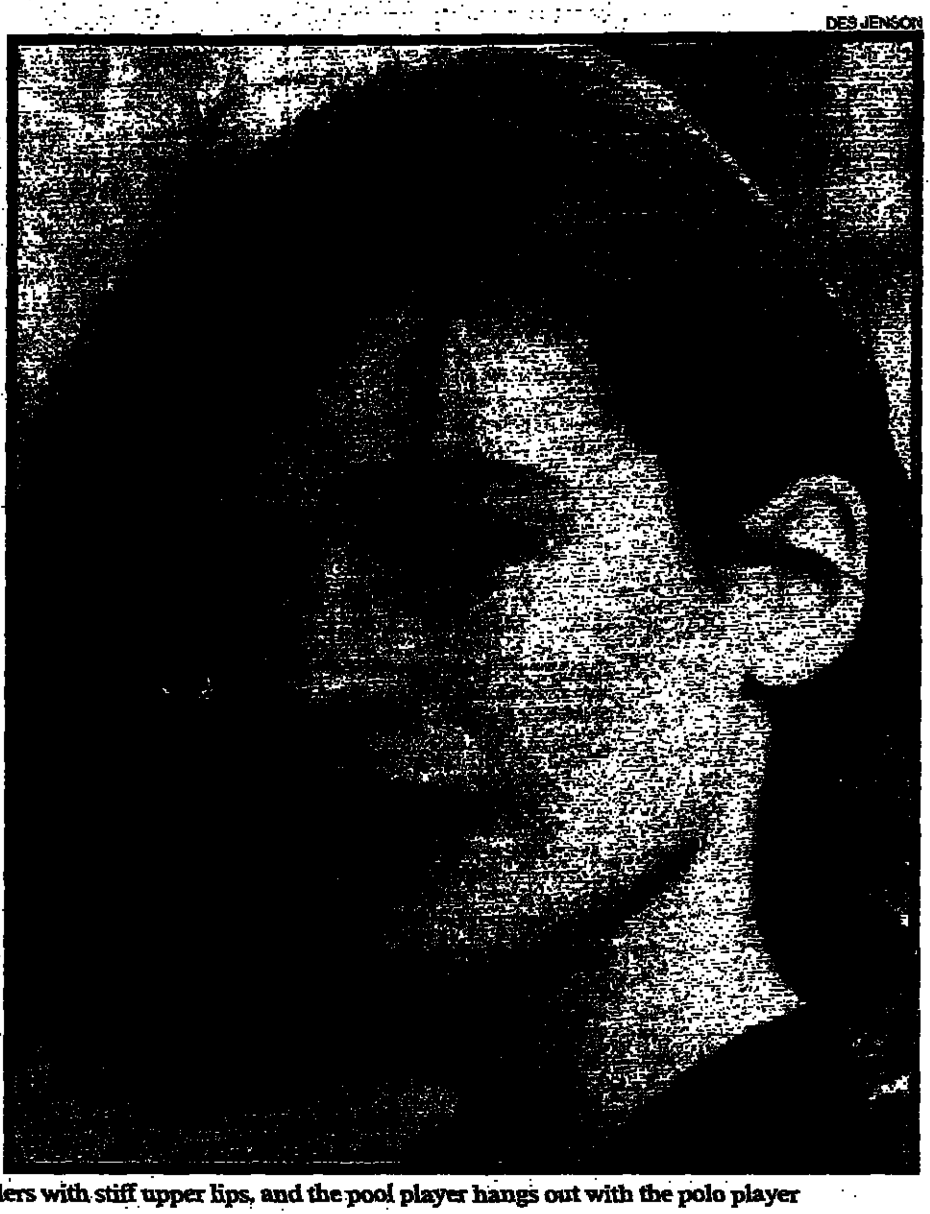
REX

NIGEL PARRY

Bella, left, and Esther Freud supply looks and brains

DES JENSON

DES JENSON



Tania Kindersley, left, Jade Jagger, Isabel Fonseca and Emily Mortimer inhabit a small stretch of territory, where seediness rubs shoulders with stiff upper lips, and the pool player hangs out with the polo player

The Sloane Ranger has been dead for years. You knew that. Retired to the country for ever to walk ageing labradors and polish silver and Land-Rovers. The Trustafarian, also known as the OK Yardie or Notting Hillbilly, is now yesterday's trendy — idle, druggy, wallowing in inherited wealth and failing to make any contribution in the new Nineties meritocracy. The It Girls are on the way out: vapid party beasts like Tara Palmer-Tomkinson and Tamara Beckwith (already known as the Had-it girls) embody a hedonistic excess that will clash with the social values and moral virtues of Britain under Blair.

But do not bewail their demise too soon. This is not the end of the easily identifiable pukka posse. There are still demographic charts to be drawn up in the posh parts of town, but they are delineating something new. A previously unknown animal, rapidly increasing in number, is taking over the London scene. Hold on to your Lulu Guinness hat, and make way for the Portobello Princess.

The PP inhabits a small stretch of Notting Hill, in west London, a habitat mythologised by Martin Amis, where seediness rubs shoulders with stiff upper lips, and the pool player hangs out with the polo player, though no one can tell which went to public school.

In this strip of territory, running fom seriously rich Holland Park at its upper end, to the wilder stretches of north Kensington, where once cheap housing accomodated black and Irish immigrants and the food came in tins, the vowels are now as long as the tails of the Nicole Fahri overcoats, and the Portobello Princess is queen.

> 'I am surprised they haven't started charging an entry fee'

A svelte brunette of intimidating sexiness and ambition, she is well-connected (Portobello papas include Lucian Freud, John Mortimer and countless scions of the Guinness family) well-educated and smart, with a high-profile and rather demanding job in something creative — publishing, the music business, theatre or film production — but appears languid enough to keep an opium den in the basement of her house.

Names such as Gaby Dellal, the daughter of property tycoon "Black Jack" Dellal, and Atalanta Goulandris, scion of a Greek shipping dynasty, follow hard on the first whisper of "Portobello Princess" — big family money, but not above starting their own production company, Stray Dog. Then, of course, there is model, artist, and showbiz daughter Jade Jagger, Will Self's former wife Kate Chancellor, of the scribbling Chancellor tribe, and her actress sister Anna (Duckface in *Four Weddings and a Funeral*). Isabel Fonseca, a dazzling figure about literary London who became half of the quintessential Portobello love affair when she captured Martin Amis, is a Portobello grande dame like novelist Rose Boyt, of the Freud tribe and actress Emily Mortimer, who has recently bought a flat just off Portobello Road, near her parents. Then there is Elastica vocalist Justine Frischmann, who has a degree in architecture and went to St Paul's Girls' School in Hammersmith, like the rest of her ilk.

Bright, intense, delicately beautiful, the the PPs have the pale skin and dark-ringed, weary eyes of one who has sat up all night proofreading. They are the natural antithesis of the It girls. The Tanyas and Tamaras are made to feel stupid by the creative lovelies of W10, but they, in turn, are reviled both for giving girls a bad name, and for making their less air-headed sisters in the west feel a little frumpy when they show up at the same parties — which they invariably do.

She may work hard and look interestingly wan, but the PP certainly knows how to party. If you want to see the PPs in action together, go to Tom Conran's trendy deli, or his Irish oyster bar, The Cow, or you can watch them gaggling at the Gate Theatre in Notting Hill, the Coronet cinema where smoking is still allowed (PPs chainsmoke Camel Lights in a soft pack) and, at Christmas at St Helen's Gardens Church Hall, where the Nottingwood players — who include the ravishing Chancellor sisters — will be putting on their annual pantomime, stuffed with knowing references to their territory.

Better still, wait for the opening of the Cobden Club in Kensal Road, which promises to be a cross between the Groucho and the Colony Room — but much, much cooler.

Tania Kindersley, a beautiful novelist and Guinness heiress, knows them intimately. Her latest novel, *Goodbye, Johnny Thunders*, anatomises the PPs playground. She says: "I am surprised they haven't fenced it off and started charging an entry fee."

GILES COREN

MEN

Men they love:
Michael Ignatieff
Martin Amis
Josh Astor
Lucian Freud
Sam Shepard

Men they hate:
Gallagher brothers
Richard Littlejohn
Michael Portillo
Almost anyone who wanted to marry them.

STYLE

Accessories:
Louise and Joey Jackson fake fur stoles. Lulu Guinness bags. Second-hand clothes from The Vent. Shoes by Patrick Cox.

Wouldn't be seen dead in: Chanel.

TALK

Never "OK yah", instead "cool".
Never "Darling, have you got the keys to the Volvo", instead "I'll pick you up in my old green Saab".
Never "I know let's go to Stringfellows", instead "Let's slip down to the Globe and get absolutely mullahed".
Never "Darling, you look fabulous", instead "Hiya gorgeous, you look wicked".
Never "Marvellous, wonderful, super", instead "Freaky, groovy, awesome, *heinous*".

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Barclays	17.3%	£134.70	£6,465.60	[illegible]
NatWest	16.9%	£134.10	£6,436.80	£477.12

Lender	A £7,000 Loan			
	APR*	48 Monthly Payments	Total Amount Paid	Direct Loan Saving
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Barclays	17.9%	£235.73	£11,315.04	£977.76
TSB	16.9%	£232.77	£11,172.96	[illegible]
NatWest	15.9%	£230.99	£11,087.52	£750.24

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THE TIMES
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CHANGING TIMES

[illegible]

هكذا من الاصل

ARMS TO RWANDA

A familiar story on unfamiliar ground

Britain, Michael Portillo said yesterday, leads the world in its "strict rules" on arms exports. That was just what ministers repeated throughout the Scott inquiry into arms sales to Iraq. For the British public, his assertion needs to be squared with the discovery by our Africa Correspondent of documents showing that a British-registered company supplied large quantities of lethal weaponry to Rwanda throughout the summer of 1994, when its former Government was carrying out the genocidal slaughter of some 800,000 Tutsis and moderate Hutus. The most rigorous and speedy investigation is a political and legal necessity.

What is at stake is the credibility of the contention that the United Kingdom is anything but a soft touch for illicit arms traffickers. That credibility was seriously dented by the Scott report's finding that ministers had connived in blurring Britain's policy with respect to defence-related exports to Iraq. But it was not destroyed — because what was also clear was that the policy itself had been more honourable than that of many arms exporters. Since the report was published, the Government has set out out proposals, deserving of all-party support, to improve inter-departmental co-ordination of licences for militarily sensitive exports — the main defect in Britain's arms control regime identified by the report. Britain has also actively promoted the new 30-nation Wassenaar Arrangement to bar defence-related exports to rogue regimes.

In the arms trade, however, it is a truth universally acknowledged that no sooner is one loophole closed than another appears. So far as is known, not a single British-made weapon was included in the Mil-Tec inventories. No export licences would therefore have been involved. Such trade is not only legal; there appears to be no obligation on British companies to report arms sales, when these involve the shipment of weapons from third countries to a foreign destination. This is no way for Britain to set an example of greater transparency in the arms trade, which John Major prides himself on pressing for at the United Nations.

Some of the shipments appearing on the Mil-Tec inventories postdated the United Nations arms embargo against Rwanda, imposed in May 1994. These are legally in a different class and can and should be the immediate focus of criminal investigation by Customs and Excise. Under British law, UN embargoes are enforced by means of statutory instruments — in this case 1637, which came into force on June 24, 1994. It applies to all British citizens and subjects and "all bodies incorporated under the law of any part of the United Kingdom".

The statement issued by the Foreign Office yesterday makes the suggestion that arms brokers can "avoid UK jurisdiction and the UN embargo" provided the arms in question "do not ever enter or leave this country". Fortunately for the Government's reputation, the drafters of SI 1637 were sharper than Foreign Office lawyers. It explicitly makes it an offence to "agree to supply or do any act likely to promote the supply of weapons" to Rwanda without the authority of a licence from the Department of Trade and Industry. To pick up the telephone would be such an act.

That leaves one potential loophole which Mil-Tec's directors would seem to have been anxious to exploit. As we report today, the company is registered in the Isle of Man and its directors operate from Sark. Both are Crown dependencies and — as the Isle of Man proudly insists — are legally not "part of the United Kingdom". But both are subject to Britain in the matter of defence and foreign policy and neither has an interest in being seen as a haven for arms traffickers. Customs and Excise, which is determined to pursue the case, has been promised full Manx co-operation. In the murky empires of arms trafficking, ministers cannot be blamed for failure to detect shipments worth little more than £3 million — a quantity sufficient to do enormous harm in so tiny a country as Rwanda but infinitesimal by the standards of the trade. But "third party" transactions are a clear problem. The Government risks justified contempt if it does not draw the lesson and tighten up further.

ZERO TOLERANCE

There should be no blind eye to crime

The more vigorously laws are enforced, the more likely the law is to be respected. The only problem with the policy of "zero tolerance" which the Metropolitan Police wishes to introduce in parts of London, and which has been piloted in Hartlepool and Glasgow, is that it is not being introduced more widely. Not only will the charm of urban life be restored if more of those guilty of antisocial behaviour face police sanctions, it will also contribute to reducing serious crime. Where aggressive vagrancy, minor drugs offences and vandalism flourish, a culture of contempt for social order exists which allows lawlessness to take root.

The need to renovate civil society as a precondition of tackling violent crime has been eloquently and persuasively made in *The Times* by Frances Lawrence. It is tempting for the police, with many claims on resources, to turn a blind eye to minor infractions. But far from allowing a greater concentration of effort on tackling serious offences, such behaviour only guarantees that there will be more serious offences.

The liberal orthodoxy on minor misdemeanours is to tolerate them within limits, the better to contain them. If drug-dealing and prostitution are left to defined areas, such as King's Cross in London or St Paul's in Bristol, then appetites can be satisfied and the suppliers more easily monitored. It is argued that any action would not eliminate the activity, but only displace it and make surveillance more difficult. A policy which condemns the residents of a neighbourhood to civic squalor because it is convenient for criminals is, at best, cynical. The evidence suggests that such a softly-softly approach is actively counter-productive.

The policy of "zero tolerance" was pioneered in New York by Rudolph Giuliani, the Republican Mayor, and his Police Commissioner, William Bratton. They developed the "broken window" theory, believing that unless small symptoms of decay were attended to, then the civic architecture would buckle. They recognised that the colonisation of parts of their city by petty criminals made life easier for more determined offenders. Indeed, by assertively pursuing those who perpetrated minor offences, the police found many who were also guilty of major crimes.

The aggressive panhandler who would otherwise have been ignored was found to be carrying illegal drugs or indeed a weapon when brought into the station. When the police started to treat an abandoned ghetto as though its citizens deserved to have lives as free of nuisance as those in an uptown area, people who had been in despair were given hope — and an incentive to report antisocial behaviour. The policy reduced crime in New York by 17 per cent, halved the murder rate and gave back the city to its most vulnerable citizens.

Civil libertarians in the United States have objected to the policy, citing the increase in the prison population and a doubling of complaints against the police as evidence of failure. But surely it is better that the inconvenience is felt by prison builders rather than the public and that the complaints come from those who attract police attention rather than those who have become the victims of criminals? Both Michael Howard and Jack Straw have played a welcome part in questioning past assumptions by insisting on the protection of the innocent before the indulging of the guilty. Both might be better employed working for an extension of "zero tolerance" than on any other enterprise.

MAJOR JAM AHEAD

A small hope of better journeys to come

For the motorway driver few things are more annoying than driving along a clear stretch of road and running into a sudden, and inexplicable, traffic jam. The delay is doubly frustrating if it has been advertised in advance: for so often are flashing overhead speed restrictions wrong or out of date that motorists tend to ignore them. Yesterday the Government announced, with great fanfare, a £30 million scheme to end traffic jams on Britain's trunk roads by redirecting traffic from congested areas using high-technology information centres. Cheap, privately run and more reliable than the present warning signals controlled by the police, they promise an end to motorway misery. It is the kind of pre-election wizardry tailor-made to appeal to the voting motorist.

The plan depends on reliable information fed by roadside sensors monitoring the flow along Britain's 6,500-mile trunk network. Regional control centres would issue warnings, updated second by second, to roadside signs and local radio stations. Motorists would be advised to turn off congested motorways before the blockage, saving them valuable time and allowing the jam to clear. The privatised service would be free, paid for by a more detailed system of national traffic updates which a driver could receive, for a yearly charge, via an onboard computer.

The scheme is being touted as an immediate benefit of the Government's Private Finance Initiative. Transport is a field where rewards are few, voters' complaints many and the Treasury capital restrictions inhibiting to any long-term strategy. Privatisation is at last offering rewards on the railways; the Government hopes that the same medicine will unclog Britain's highway arteries.

A harsher look at this latest project, however, reveals it as less than it seems. Traffic volume, now running at 25 million vehicles, is expected to double by 2025. A massive expansion of the road and motorway network is not only unaffordable but is electorally unpopular. The huge environmental, architectural and pollution costs are already forcing a rethink on road construction. Inevitably, traffic jams will increase. The new sensor-controlled early warning system could even make matters worse by diverting so much traffic, especially heavy goods vehicles, on to sideroads. It risks defeating one of the very purposes for which most motorways and bypasses were built: to save Britain's villages and countryside from the destruction and danger of heavy traffic.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

48-hour rule: why Europe is right

From Professor A. A. Dashwood

Sir, It is absurd for Mr Iain Duncan Smith, MP, to suggest, following the European Court's judgment on the working time directive ("Why our opt-out did not work", November 13), that the Court, as well as the Commission and the Council, believe "Britain's social chapter opt-out to be inconsistent with the process of political union in Europe".

The Court's judgment has nothing whatever to say about the scope or effect of the protocol and agreement on social policy negotiated at Maastricht. The case in question turned on the interpretation of Article 118a which empowers the Council to adopt, by means of directives, "minimum requirements for gradual implementation" with a view to harmonising health and safety conditions in the working environment.

Could that definition be understood as including requirements relating to the organisation of working time; or was the provision essentially concerned with physical risks, such as those from machinery, or toxic chemicals? The point could be argued either way, though the balance of expert legal opinion has always been in favour of the broader interpretation. The Court has now opted for that interpretation, and the reasoning in the judgment provides solid justification for doing so.

Mr Duncan Smith's attack on the eight existing articles on social policy in the EC treaty seems wholly misconceived. Six out of the eight articles have been in the treaty from the very beginning, while two of them (118a and 118b) were added by the Single European Act of 1986. All of the articles, therefore, predate the European Social Charter which was signed by eleven of the member states in 1989.

Mr Duncan Smith is wrong to state that "the key articles in this section are covered by qualified majority voting, which means that once a regulation is proposed in this section, Britain has no veto". The only legal basis in the chapter on social policy allowing qualified majority decisions is Article 118a itself; thus, for instance, successive directives on sex discrimination have been based on Article 235 of the treaty, under which the United Kingdom had a "veto" but chose not to use it.

Yours etc,
A. A. DASHWOOD
(Director,
Centre for European Legal Studies),
University of Cambridge,
Faculty of Law,
10 West Road, Cambridge.
November 14.

From Mrs Judith Gardiner

Sir, Would it be too cynical to suggest that the row over Mr Major's determination to resist the imposition of the social chapter is a smokescreen to hide his Government's involvement with the "stability pact" (leading article, November 11)?

After all, he must know that the EU was entirely within its legal powers when it issued the directive on working hours under Article 118. The European Court of Justice ruling may or may not be unpalatable but in the end it will be implemented.

How long will politicians, on both sides of the House, continue to mislead the people about Europe?

Sincerely,
JUDITH GARDINER,
46 Gloucester Square, W2.
November 13.

Defence under Healey

From Brigadier Charles Millman (retd)

Sir, I would like to put the other side of the argument following Vice-Admiral Sir James Jungius's highly critical letter (November 14) concerning the standing of Lord Healey as a former Secretary of State for Defence.

As one who served in Sarawak during confrontation with Indonesia in the mid-Sixties, I can only say that under his firm and able stewardship of defence policy we were substantially reinforced at a critical time, received the additional helicopter support we so badly needed and, above all, were given authority to conduct campaign-winning cross-border operations.

The overall result was that what was nothing less than a war was successfully concluded much earlier than had been thought likely and many lives were accordingly saved. Let us simply give credit where it is due.

Yours faithfully,
CHARLES MILLMAN,
Nile Cottage,
62 North Road, Hythe, Kent.
November 15.

Pedal power

From Mr Keith C. Kraushaar

Sir, I read with interest that certain train companies are planning to win back cyclists' custom "after 15 years of hostility" (report, November 11). There is talk of attracting more cyclists by issuing tickets that would make it cheaper to travel with a bicycle than without. I should like to know who will pay for this privilege of cheaper travel: I assume the average commuter without a bike.

Yours faithfully,
KEITH G. KRAUSHAAR,
26 Guildford Road, Rustington,
Littlehampton, West Sussex.
November 12.

Hospital fast track for fundholders

From Mr Michael Smith, FRCS

Sir, Dr Anderson and Dr Warin (letter, November 14) describe the unacceptable two-tier system in hospitals, also highlighted by your report on the situation at the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital (November 16). At St Thomas' Hospital surgeons have been advised by the local purchasing authority that it will pay only for patients who are medically urgent or who have been on the waiting list 18 months. A fundholding patient can be seen and treated much more quickly.

With limited resources and administrative costs rising, the situation seems bound to deteriorate.

Fundholders do not pay for emergency treatment on their patients, but this loophole, will, I am sure, be closed. Fundholding GPs will then quickly find themselves in the same financial predicament as the purchasing authorities.

Yours sincerely,
MICHAEL SMITH
(Consultant orthopaedic surgeon),
St Thomas' Hospital,
Lambeth Palace Road, SE1.
November 16.

From the Director of the London Gynaecology and Fertility Centre Ltd

Sir, The suggestion in the Health Secretary's White Paper that a universally free health service funded from taxation is feasible (report, November 14) does not ring true, since patently it does not exist now.

Take fertility treatment, for example. In France, four cycles of in-vitro fertilisation treatment are provided free by the State, yet in the UK some fertility services operating in NHS hospitals expect patients to pay between £500 and £1,500 per treatment cycle because lack of funds limits free availability. I predict there would be an outcry in Parliament if any MP's wife was asked to pay for her obstetric care.

Yours faithfully,
IAN CRAFT,
Director,
London Gynaecology and
Fertility Treatment Centre Ltd,
Cozens House, 112a Harley Street, W1.
November 14.

From Dr Alister K. M. Hutchin

Sir, I am a non-fundholding GP. On Monday a patient was told by a consultant surgeon's secretary that there was no hope of treatment before 1998. Such comments are common.

I suspect that it may now be official policy to force the remaining GPs, like myself, to become fundholders through patient pressure — or lose their patients.

Yours faithfully,
A. K. M. HUTCHIN,
The Group Practice Centre,
Victor Street,
Southampton, Hampshire.
November 14.

Wastage in the NHS

From Mr Roy Lilley

Sir, Your reports (November 6) on Health Secretary Stephen Dorrell securing additional funding for health and on the publication of the Audit Commission Report, *Goods for Your Health*, highlighting waste in the procurement processes in NHS Trusts show an ugly contrast between what is done and what needs to be done in the health service.

As far back as 1993 The Federation of NHS Trusts standing committee on supplies and purchasing, which I chaired, produced a damning report on the performance of the newly formed NHS Supplies Authority (NHSSA). The report was widely denounced as an act of disloyalty to NHS colleagues, meddlesome and inaccurate.

The Audit Commission's report mirrors the federation's in both findings and recommendations. The real waste is in the performance of the NHSAA which is paid and relied upon by hospital trusts to handle procurement of supplies on their behalf. It appears to have failed.

There have been nearly four years of dissatisfaction with the NHSSA. It chants a familiar mantra about improving, learning and "getting there", but has consistently failed to deliver the goods to private-sector standards. Most of its work is confined to buying and delivering routine, non-medical, items such as lavatory paper and light bulbs.

The NHSSA appears to be taking refuge in the fact that Labour have made it clear they have no intention of market testing it with a view to privatisation.

Anyone working in the NHS will welcome more money for health but the Government should also make sure the best possible use is being made of existing resources.

Yours faithfully,
ROY LILLEY
(Chairman,
Federation of NHS Trusts Committee
on Supplies and Purchasing, 1990-94),
University of Nottingham,
Centre for Health Services
Management,
Nottingham, NG7 2RD.

From Mr Ed Robinson

Sir, I see that copies of the Audit Commission's damning report on waste in the NHS are available at £15. Who will pay such a sum for information that has been common knowledge for years?

Yours faithfully,
ED ROBINSON,
7 High Warden,
Hexham, Northumberland.
November 6.

War poetry

From Mr Charles Chadwick

Sir, Mr Douglas Hurd (letter, November 18) is quite right about Philip Larkin's poem *Naturally the Foundation will Bear Your Expenses*.

Andrew Motion, his biographer, has described the poem as "a piece of savagery aimed at an opportunistic name-dropper", and Larkin wrote in a letter to Robert Conquest dated July 11, 1961: "I hope it annoys all the continent-hopping craps". The poem portrays the kind of fashionable, self-serving cynicism he detested. In another letter, dated November 11, 1984, to Anthony Thwaite he wrote: "Watched the Cenotaph ceremony as usual, that day when Queen and minister etc. Very moving." Just so. For anyone who knows his poetry he could not conceivably have felt otherwise.

Yours faithfully,
CHARLES CHADWICK,
25a Denning Road, NW3.
November 18.

'Pericles' revived

From Mr Jeremy Lemmon

Sir, It was a pleasure to read Benedict Nightingale's defence of *Pericles* (Arts, November 11) which he rightly calls an underrated play; but he does an accidental disservice to Dr Johnson: it was Ben Jonson, not the Doctor, who described *Pericles* as "a mouldy tale".

It's worth recalling the context of this sneer. After the humiliating failure of his play *The New Inn*, Jonson wrote one of his bitterest poems, an assault on the judgment and taste of theatregoers, "the Play-club" for whom "sweepings do as well/ As the best-ordered meal".

The phrase about *Pericles* is a resentful side-swipe at a play which was still popular twenty years after its first performance.

Yours faithfully,
JEREMY LEMMON,
4 Church Lane, Ely, Cambridgeshire.
November 12.

Purpose of GCSE

From the Director of the History Curriculum Association

Sir, Sir Wilfred Cockcroft (letter, November 11) suggests that criticism of GCSE in a *Times* leader is a "slur on the character and integrity" of Keith Joseph, the former Secretary of State for Education, who introduced the exam.

In fact, it was Joseph himself who fuelled criticism of the exam within a few months of its introduction. Having announced to Parliament on May 5, 1988, that he was concerned to discover that aspects of GCSE history exams were "a straight abuse of the original idea" he went on to support a History Curriculum Association proposal for the GCSE monopoly to be broken.

In a letter to us at around the same time Tony Blair agreed with us that the GCSE boards might be operating a cartel because of their refusal to make GCE O-level exams available to pupils in this country. Wisely, for his own children, he has since chosen a school offering a Scottish alternative to GCSE. Keith Joseph would certainly have approved.

Yours sincerely,
C. McGOVERN, Director,
History Curriculum Association,
Windover, Punnetts Town,
Heathfield, East Sussex.
November 11.

From Mr W. J. Woodward

Sir, Sir Wilfred Cockcroft rightly chastises you for inferring incorrect motives to Keith Joseph. Many in the teaching profession remember well Sir (then Dr) Wilfred's report, *Mathematics counts*, published in 1982 from which stems much of what is good in today's teaching of mathematics.

Paragraph 517 of that report states that:

> It is important that responsibility should be properly defined at all levels within the educational system and that responsibility should be linked with authority, accountability and assessment.

Despite local management of schools, opting out, hit squads, league tables, the national curriculum and other initiatives we still do not appear to have got this right — as is shown by events at The Ridings, Manton and elsewhere. This cannot be the fault of Lord Joseph or Sir Wilfred, who both had the vision to point the way most clearly.

Yours etc,
W. J. WOODWARD
(Mathematics teacher),
Mountfitchet High School,
Stansted, Essex.
November 11.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 0171-782 5046.

Passing notes on 'Mastermind'

From Mr Douglas A. Thomas

Sir, I was extremely disappointed to read that the BBC proposed to cast adrift *Mastermind* (report and leading article, November 15). My own mind had just become accustomed to the rigorous questions and my number of passes had reached an all time low of 700 during the last series.

I had been busy studying for my own specialised subject — the excellent programmes axed by the BBC during the past few years.

Yours tearfully,
DOUGLAS A. THOMAS,
24 The Lawns,
St Mary's Close,
Eastbourne, East Sussex.
November 15.

From Mr Tom Bean

Sir, Your extensive coverage of *Mastermind* contains no analysis of why a programme that has variously been described over the years as "an institution" and "arguably the most difficult quiz programme on television" is to be scrapped.

In my considered opinion it is to go because the programme has declined in quality and lost public esteem as a result.

That, in itself, ought to merit your attention. How did it happen?

Yours faithfully,
TOM BEAN
(*Mastermind* finalist, 1989),
Ullington Hall, Honeybourne,
Evesham, Worcestershire.
November 15.

Bingo petition

From Mr John F. Garrett

Sir, On Tuesday, November 19, a petition containing half a million signatures will be delivered to 10 Downing Street on behalf of Britain's bingo players.

After fishing, bingo is Britain's most popular leisure pastime. Yet it continues to be the poor relation in terms of taxation and deregulation offered to those industries most affected by the impact of the National Lottery. No measures comparable to the relief offered to horse and greyhound racing, betting shops, pubs and clubs have been forthcoming. Now, whilst bingo is still reeling from the impact of the Saturday lottery, the Government is rushing ahead with a midweek lottery in the new year.

The bingo industry offers not only low-cost entertainment but important social benefits to the communities it serves. It is essential that the Government responds with a sense of urgency to the modest demands for relaxation of our outdated restrictions on advertising and prize-limits if lasting damage is not to be done to an industry providing investment, employment and a great deal of pleasure to millions.

Your sincerely,
JOHN F. GARRETT
(Managing Director,
Leisure Division),
The Rank Group plc,
6 Connaught Place, W2.
November 18.

Day's labour done

From Mr David Baxter

Sir, Launching the Labour Party's document on *Parenting* (report, November 14) the Labour spokesman on women said: "Parents want guidance on issues like bedtime." What nonsense! As a responsible parent of four children I can assure the Labour Party I am in no need of any such advice.

Is there no end to the regulating and interfering tendency of "new" Labour? In the run-up to the general election I want to hear about their plans for the economy and our public services. I can do without this sanctimonious and misplaced moralising.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID BAXTER,
3 Rayment Drift, Kesgrave, Suffolk.
November 14.

From Mrs Helen Potts

Sir, With fixed bedtimes for children Labour promises us, quite literally, the nanny state. Will we floundering parents also be told of the appropriate dosage of castor oil?

Yours faithfully,
HELEN POTTS,
The Grange,
Church Lane, Pinner, Middlesex.

From Mr J. T. Healy

Sir, What is a British bedtime? When our children were young, my wife was surprised to hear me reciting *Wee Willie Winkie* to them in the version I had always known in Scotland and which finished: "are a' the bairnies in their bed? It's past ten o'clock." Her southern English version had "the children" in bed much earlier.

Yours faithfully,
J. T. HEALY,
Northfield, 11 Muirton Bank, Perth.

From Mr John Raybould

Sir, "Labour wants British bedtime for children" (headline, November 14). Obviously a case of "Listen with Big Brother".

Yours sincerely,
JOHN RAYBOULD,
3 Chestnut Court, High Street,
Newport, Saffron Walden, Essex.
November 14.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
November 18: The Duke of Edinburgh this afternoon visited the Sternberg Centre for Judaism, the Manor House, 80 East End Road, London N3.

His Royal Highness, Senior Fellow, this evening attended the Royal Academy of Engineering New Fellows' Dinner at Drapers' Hall, Throgmorton Street, London EC2.

The Earl of Courtown (Lord in Waiting) called upon the Governor-General of St Vincent and the Grenadines and Lady Antrobus at the Marriott Hotel, Grosvenor Square, London W1, this morning and, on behalf of The Queen, welcomed Their Excellencies on their Arrival in this country.

The Earl of Courtown (Lord in Waiting) was present at Heathrow Airport, London, this afternoon upon the Arrival of The President of the Republic of Kenya and welcomed His Excellency on behalf of Her Majesty.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
November 18: The Prince of Wales this morning opened the new rural social housing development in Stratfield Saye, Hampshire.

His Royal Highness, Chairman, the Royal Collection Trust, this afternoon chaired a trustees' meeting at St James's Palace.

The Prince of Wales afterwards received the Rt Hon John Major MP (Prime Minister and First Lord of the Treasury).

His Royal Highness, Chairman, the Royal Collection Trust, this evening gave a Reception at St James's Palace.

The Prince of Wales, Colonel-in-Chief, The Royal Gurkha Rifles, later attended the Gurkha Brigade Centenary Dinner at the Army and Navy Club, Pall Mall, London SW1.

KENSINGTON PALACE
November 18: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, Patron, Youth Clubs Scotland, this afternoon presented the "BP Youth Clubs Scotland Grizzly Challenge and Gruff Kids" Awards at the James Watt Centre, Heriot Watt University, Riccarton, Edinburgh.

Her Royal Highness was received by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant of the City of Edinburgh, The Right Hon The Lord Provost Eric Milligan.

November 18: The Duke of Gloucester this morning visited Irvine Development Corporation's Harbourside project, Irvine New Town and was received on arrival by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Ayrshire and Arran (Major Richard Henderson).

In the afternoon His Royal Highness opened Wilson House, Hansel Village, Symington.

YORK HOUSE
November 18: The Duke of Kent, Vice-Chairman, the British Overseas Trade Board, this afternoon called on Mr Shinji Sato, Minister for International Trade and Industry, Tokyo.

This evening His Royal Highness, on behalf of Her Majesty, invested Mr Taiichiro Matsuo, Chairman of the British Market Council, with the insignia of an Honorary Knight Commander of the Civil Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire.

The Duke later attended a Trade Mission reception, at the British Embassy, Tokyo, Japan.

Today's royal engagements

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh will give an evening reception at Buckingham Palace at 9.30 for Members of the Diplomatic Corps. Prince Edward and Princess Alexandra will also attend.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Honorary Life Member of the British Sub-Aqua Club, will present the 1995 Duke of Edinburgh's Prize at Buckingham Palace at 10.00; as President, will present the National Playing Fields Association President's Certificates for 1996 at Buckingham Palace at 10.30; as Patron and Trustee, will attend receptions at St James's Palace for young people who have achieved the gold standard in The Duke of Edinburgh's Award at 11.30 and 4.00; and as President, will present the Institute of Sports Sponsorship Awards and attend a luncheon at the Royal Automobile Club, Pall Mall at 12.35.

The Prince of Wales, as president, will attend an exhibition of masks at the Festival Hall at 6.00 which will later be auctioned on behalf of The Prince's Trust.

Sir Malby Crofton regrets that he will be unable to send individual cards this year, so he wishes to send all friends and associates, in the UK and Ireland, all best wishes for Christmas and 1997.

Receptions

Lord Wigoder, QC
Lord Wigoder, QC, as Patron of the Institute of Management Services, was the host at a reception held last night at the House of Lords to introduce the institutes new public services group. Mr A.J. Parry, chairman of the institute, Mr M. Kateley, chairman of the public services group, and Sir John Page were the speakers.

Portland Place School, London W1
The Headmaster of Portland Place School, Mr Richard Walker, and staff were the hosts at a reception held on Thursday, November 14, to inaugurate officially Portland Place School — a new mixed independent secondary school. Dr John Rae performed the opening ceremony.

Christening

The infant daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Lee was christened Sophie Charlotte by the Rev Christopher MacKenna at St Peter's, Hascombe, Surrey, on Sunday, November 17, 1996. The godparents are Mrs Susie Durrell and Mrs Sarah Kleiman.

Legal appointment

Mr Keith Charles Cutler has been appointed a Circuit Judge assigned to the Western Circuit.

Dinners

The Royal Academy of Engineering
The Duke of Edinburgh, as Senior Fellow of The Royal Academy of Engineering, attended the 1996 New Fellows' Dinner held last night at the Drapers' Hall. The Speech of Welcome was given by the President, Sir David Davies, CBE, FEng, FRS, the toast to the New Fellows was proposed by the Senior Fellow, and Dr Christopher Fay, FEng, FRSE, responded on behalf of the New Fellows.

Lord Mayor of Westminster
The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Westminster were the hosts at a dinner held last night at Westminster City Hall to mark the forthcoming retirement of the Very Rev Michael Mayne as Dean of Westminster. Among those present were:

Mrs Michael Mayne, the Lord Chancellor and Lady Mackay of Clashfern, Lord and Lady Weatherill, Baroness Hooper, Lady Pullen, Lieutenant-General Sir Alan and Lady Reay, Vice-Admiral Sir James and Lady Weatherall, Councillor Kevin Gardner and Baroness Gardner of Parkes, Councillor Angela Hooper, Councillor David Avery, Councillor Jenny Bianco, Councillor Alan Bradley, the Rev Barry Fenton, the Rev Dr and Mrs Peter Graves, Mrs Elizabeth Flach, Mr and Mrs Joe Glickman, Councillor Dr Cyril and Mrs Nemeth, Councillor Anne Mallinson, Canon and Mrs Donald Gray, Mr and Mrs John Holroyd, Canon David Hutt, Mr and Mrs Martin Neary, Canon and Mrs Colin Semper, Rear-Admiral Kenneth Snow, Mr Stuart Holmes, Mgr George Stack, Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs Malcolm Ross, Mrs Austen Kopley, Sr, Mr Austen Kopley, Mr Christian Dietleff, Councillor Pamela Batty, Mr Tony Platt, Mr and Mrs Mark Bishop, Councillor and Mrs John Bull, Mr David Dorey, Mr and Mrs Leonard Haywood, Colonel Neil Johnson, Mrs Elizabeth Hunter Johnston, Councillor Carolyn Keen, the Rev Lionel Rosenfeld and Mr Kevin Taylor.

Pilgrims
Field-Marshal Sir Peter Inge, Chief of the Defence Staff, was the guest of honour at a dinner given by the Pilgrims last night at Claridge's Hotel. Mr Robert M. Worcester, chairman, presided. Lord Chalfont also spoke. Among those present were:

The Right Rev Dr David Say, Lord Abinger, Lord Astor of Hever, Lord Hacking, Lord Vivian, Baroness Young, Sir Ian Percival, QC, the Hon Sir Clive Bossom, the Hon John Eccles, the Hon Lady de Zulueta, Lady Lever, Sir John Graham, Sir Antony Acland, Sir Colin Chandler, Sir John Coles, Sir Michael Craig-Cooper, Sir Alan Dawtry, Sir Christopher French, Sir Philip Goodhart, Sir Brian Goswell, Vice-Admiral Sir James Jungius, Sir Richard Lloyd, Sir Peter Marshall, Sir David Nicholas, Sir John Peel, Sir Frank Roberts, Sir William van Straubenzee, Air Chief Marshal Sir Neil Wheeler, Sir Oliver Wright, Mr Peter Barton, Mr Robert Bradtke, Mr John Fingleton, Miss Victoria Legge-Bourke, Mr Watcyn Lewis, Mr Robert Sigmon, Mr Edward Streator and Brigadier John Winter.

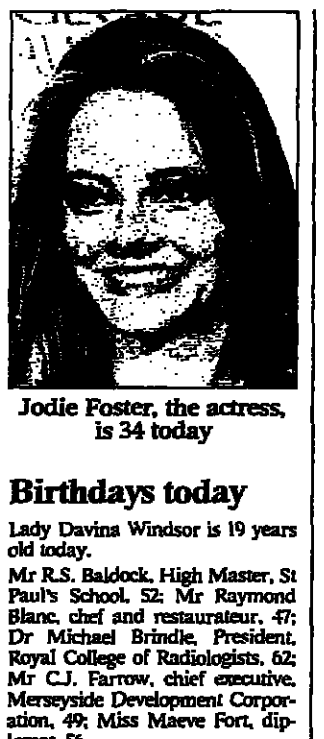
Furniture Makers' Company
Sir Gordon Manzie was the principal guest and a speaker at the annual ladies' dinner of the Furniture Makers' Company held last night at Clothworkers' Hall. Mr Hugh Joscelyne, Master, presided. Mr Edward Brett, Senior Warden, also spoke.

Anglo-Belgian Society
Viscount Montgomery of Alamein presided and introduced Sir Peregrine Worsthorne, the principal speaker and guest of honour, at the annual dinner of the Anglo-Belgian Society held last night at 60 Knightsbridge to mark Belgian Dynasty Day (November 15). The Belgian Ambassador also spoke.

United Oxford & Cambridge University Club
Lord Jenkins of Hillhead, OM, Chancellor of Oxford University, and Lord Blake were the principal speakers at a dinner of the United Oxford & Cambridge University Club held last night at the club house. Sir Bryan Nicholson, chairman, presided.

The Midland and Oxford Circuit Bar Mess
The Midland and Oxford Circuit Bar Mess held a Dinner on Friday, November 15, in Middle Temple Hall in honour of the former Leader, Richard Wakerley, QC, and to celebrate the Silver Anniversary of the combined Midland and Oxford Circuits and the appointments of Lord Woolf, the Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Judge and Mr Justice Astill. The Leader of the Circuit, Mr James Hunt, QC, presided. 300 members of the Circuit attended and among those present were:

Lady Judge, Lady Astill, Mrs Marian Wakerley, the President of the Family Division, Sir Stephen Brown, Lord Justice Leggatt, Lord Justice Otton, Mr Justice Latham, Mr Justice Jowitt, Mr Justice McCullough, Mr Justice Popplewell, Mr Justice Scott Baker, Mr Justice Buxton, His Honour Judge Wilcox, His Honour Judge Murchie, Sir Graham Swanwick, Sir Ralph Kilner Brown, Sir Desmond Fennell and Mr Neil Moore (Junior). Oundle School Chapel Choir sang in the Minstrels Gallery.



Jodie Foster, the actress, is 34 today

Birthdays today

Lady Davina Windsor is 19 years old today.

Mr R.S. Baldock, High Master, St Paul's School, 52; Mr Raymond Blanc, chef and restaurateur, 47; Dr Michael Brindle, President, Royal College of Radiologists, 62; Mr C.J. Farrow, chief executive, Merseyside Development Corporation, 49; Miss Maeve Fort, diplomat, 56.

Miss Kathleen Halpin, former chief administrator, Regions, WRVS, 93; Baroness Jeger, 81; Admiral of the Fleet Lord Lewin, KG, 76; the Earl of Lindsay, 41; Mr David Lloyd-Jones, conductor, 62; Air Marshal Sir Kenneth Porter, 84; Miss Meg Ryan, actress, 35; Dr Robert C. Smith, Vice-Chancellor, Kingston University, 61; the Ven Michael Till, Dean of Winchester, 61; Professor Dame Margaret Turner-Warwick, former president, Royal College of Physicians, 72.

Meeting

Royal Over-Seas League
Lord Desai, Director of the Centre for the Study of Global Governance, London School of Economics and Political Science, was the guest speaker at a meeting of the Discussion Circle of the Royal Over-Seas League held last night at Over-Seas House, St James's. Dr Habib Zuberi presided.

Institute of Export

Examination Results May 1996
The following have completed all parts of the Professional Exam Pt I or the Professional Exam Pt II/ Diploma in Export Management:

Prize List

Professional Exam Pt II/Diploma in Export Management

National Westminster Bank Prize for highest marks: Miss J L Duke (May 1996); DTI Prize (second highest marks): Miss R M Newberry (May 1996); DHL International (UK) Prize (third highest marks): Miss C E Dunn (May 1996); Barclays Bank Prize (International Marketing (Export Distribution)): Miss J L Duke (May 1996); DTI Prize (International Marketing): Mrs S D Merriman (Nov 1995); George Lockhart Prize (Principles of Management in Export): Miss J L Duke (May 1996)

Professional Exams Pt I:

British Aerospace Prize (highest marks): Miss S M Waddilove (May 1996); Maerskline UK Prize (second highest marks): Ms J E Hudson (May 1996); T & R (Insurance Services) Prize (third highest marks): Mrs L Glover (May 1996); Alex Lawrie FactorsPrize (Principles of Marketing): Ms J E Hudson (May 1996); Clive & Twinkle Schmitthoff Prize (Principles of Law Relating to Overseas Trade): Ms D A Clark (May 1996); National Westminster Bank Prize (International Trade and Payments): Ms S Fabjan (May 1996); SITPRO Prize (International Physical Distribution): Mrs V P Vince (Nov 1995); Society of Shipping Executives Educational Trust Prize: Mrs V P Vince (Nov 1995); Co of World Traders Silver Salver for best performance in either part of the exam: Miss J L Duke (May 1996)

Certificates of Merit

For exceptional proficiency in the Professional Exam Pt II/ Diploma in Export Management:

Nov 1995: Mrs S D Merriman, Miss S L Moore; May 1996: Miss J L Duke, Miss C E Dunn, F F Fielding, J M C Hicks, Miss A John, I W Kent, J Morton, Mrs T Munnings, Miss R M Newberry, Mrs D-M Talbot, P J Thackray, Mrs J Wade.

For exceptional proficiency in the Professional Examination Pt I

Nov 1995: F F Fielding, A R Mountford; May 1996: L P Adair, M J Baldwin, G Comer, Miss A D'Angelo, Miss N G Evenett, Mrs L Glover, Mrs V Hammond-Bryan, Mrs L Harry, Ms J E Hudson, Ms K E Hughes Miss B W James, Mrs A R Lukehurst, P J Merton, Mrs Z M Popel, Mrs E Powell, S M Quinn, Miss K Robinson, C W Skinner, Miss J A Smith, Miss S M Waddilove.

Professional Exam pt II
Diploma in Export Management

Passes were awarded to the following candidates who have satisfied the examiners in International Marketing (Export Distribution), International Marketing Research (Export Markets, Selection, Research and Statistics) and Principles of Management in Export and who are thereby eligible for Graduate Membership of the Institute:

Aldred, K E, Evolution Clothing; Barnard, F C, Alcan Chems Europe; Bennett, R J, Renishaw; Bury D M, Avesta Sheffield; Carter, M S, Argonaut Freight Forwarding; Coates, J, P & O Containers; Conlin, H S; Creed, D J, Bousfield Printing Prods; *Cusack, I P, Hi-Tech Logistics; Davies, J, Hickson Manro; Davies, M J; *Duke, J L Trade Indemnity; Duff, H W; *Dunn, C E, John Hogg Technical Solutions; Feerick, J P, Fyffes; Fielding, F F, Gwyndann Group; Guiry, A, J Barbour and Sons; Guilteny, F I, Superjouet (UK); Hepple, C E, Billington Food Gp; Hicks, J M C, Transways (UK); Hilton, M, Manchester Ch of Com and Ind; Hopwood, G KV, Automation Systems; Hucker, L J, Homelux Trent; Jackson, H, Winger; *John, A, Credit Lyonnais Secs; Kandola, S; Kearsley, J, Swish Prods; Kedian, S, Hazel Grove (Superleague); Kelly, C M, Coopers Filters; Kent, I W, Dycal Int; King, A S, MSAS Cargo Int; Lavalee, H, Cookson Matthey Print; Levy, G E; Lewis, K M, Staples Gp; Mansell, M, B A T; McCutcheon, I A, Ricoh UK Prods; McHugh, A C, Perkins Parts; Morton, J, Tinsley Wire (Sheffield); Munnings, T Trade Indemnity; Murphy, P, DTI; *Newberry, R M, Trade Indemnity; Nugent, M P W, Allen Taylor; Owen, D J; Palmer, K; Parsons, T, Int Eng Seminars, Athens; Pearman, M J; Priestley, P, Bowler Int Freight; Redshaw, P F W, Pullen Pumps; Rees, V J, Van Leer Metallized Prods; Rogan, J F; Rogers, S D, Yule Catto Consumer Chems; Sahraoui, D, Starion Int; Sanderson-King, P; Seaborne, P Bibby Sterilin; Sheikh, M A; Sherratt, R C, LeaRonal (UK); Sladden, R D, MoD (Navy); Smith, J H, Bohler-Uddeholm (UK); Stanway, R J; *Talbot, D-M Uponer; Taylor, J E, Cartiaudmetalbox Aerosols UK; Thackray, P J, Brunner Mond; Thomas, D C, Brockhouse Modernfold; Tookey, S, Madge Networks; Wade, J; Wain, A V, Gramos Surface Treatment; Webb, K M, Wandsworth Elec; Whitstance, H J, Birmingham Ch of Com *; Yildiz, A, Smithkline Beecham Int.

*Distinction in one subject in May 1996.

The following have completed studies for Graduate Membership through professional exams and exemptions:

Pattison, M D; Pinder, J S Lawson Mardon Pharmaflex; Scott, J; Vohfahr, A.

Professional Exam Pt I

*Adair, L P; Agboli, K V Sugar Exporters London; Aguirre de Coe, M V; Alibhai, A; Andidero, C; Aouati, S S; Asare, S A; *Athendorou, G; *Bailey, G C Barber Wilsons; Baines, D E, BBA Friction; *Bal, S S, Areen Design Servs; *Baldwin, M J, Eschmann Equip; Barber, J, NSK-RHP; *Bartlett, M J, Coulter Elec; Basra, I K; Binnall, B, Britannia Alloys Chems; Bletcher, S, NWT F Forwarding; *Bowman, A M, SRL Assocs; *Bowring, A, HM Forces; Braddock, L A, Slater Harrison; *Brenner, G I, Fleet Shipping Int; *Briggs, P L, Elite MB; Brouard, S D M, GKN Freight Servs; Buchanan, R R, Premier-Grip; Burns, L S, Glasgow Ch of Com; Cairney, P A, Rothmans Int; Carr, R L, Clariant UK; Carson, A; Cecchi, E; *Cellier, S; Chappell, J S, Genl Tradg Post; *Chuykov, A B, Amigo Int; Clark, D A, Cyanamid (UK); Clayton, P A, Euroclad; Coates, L M; Cochrane, C R, Hampshire Educ Dept; *Comer, G, Interpolymer; Connor, Y, DTI-Business Link, Walsall; *Conway, S A, Graham & Brown; Cook, P, GKN Freight Servs; *Corbon, G A, Lancaster Dist Ch of Com; *Couper, L J; Cox, A P; Cully, C R, Hounslow Spelthor Health Auth; *Dalle Mura, B, *Financial Times*; *Dandy, L G N Burgess; *D'Angelo, A; *Davies, M E, Fioform; *Davies, T K, CP Pharms; *Day, G P, Reynolds Medical; De Landro, C; Diaper, P J, BAT (UK & Export); Douglas, Y D, BP Chem Trading; Dowling, H; *Ellis, J, Roundwood Bright Bar; Essalama, J; *Evenett, N G, Madison Container Lines; Farr, J D, CPC (UK); Fetahi, S; Foster, J L, Britannia Alloy Chems; *Fowley, K, Forbo-Nairn; Franklin, B J R; Freakley, J R, Aston Manor Brewery; *Gill, A, Conex Sanbra; *Ginarlis, G; *Glover, L, Caradon PCL; *Goodfellow, A S, Semefab (Scot); Gough, D, Bray Tech; Graham A D; Grandson, K S, Euro Alloys; Gregg, P W B, U Components; Grimes S H; Grundy, M C; Gupta, K D, London Underground; Haddleton, N H, LEP Int; Halcro K, Queen Margaret Coll; *Hammond-Bryan, V, DTI; Harper, D, Point Lisas Industrial Port Dev Corp, Trinidad; *Harrison, M W, BICC Cables; *Harry L A, BICC Cables; Harwood, J A, Candy & Co; Haston, C, ABI Cables; Hayrapet, S, Pizza Express; Higgins, M M, Automotive Parts (London); Hinchcliffe, T E, Merlin Gerin; Hitchenor, L, Chronos Richardson; Hopkinson, S P, Mitre Sports Int; *Howard, L A, Standard Chtrd Bank; Hoyle, K M, Rosemont Pharms; Hristova, R; *Hudson, J E, Hickson Timber Prods; *Hughes, K E, Four Square Divn, Mars; Hunt, R L, Dun & Bradstreet; Huntley, D G; *Idba, D; *Jackson, J R; James, B W, Cytec Aerospace; James, K R, Mandoval; Jarrett, D F, John Crane UK; *Johnson, A A, Microlise Eng; *Johnson, C D; Johnson, M R, Peers Hardy (UK); *Jones, C Rhone Poulenc Chem; Jones, J M, Fribo Foods; Jones, T, Mitre Sports Int; Jukes, S L, Faulding Pharms; Kanaan, J; *Kassa, M K; Kastanek, A; *Kelly, R; Kerr, R N, Kelly Servs, Trinidad; *Klin, A L, Ocular Sciences; Knill, A J R, McVities (UK); *Koupperi, N, Reuters Business Info; Lane, J; Lewis, C M, David Brown Pumps; Little, S E, Dudley Tec; Loughlin, A; Europa Magnetics; Lowe, L J, Biwater Inds; *Lukehurst, A R, Viscose Closures; Mackay, E C; Mackey, M B, Powell Gees; Maenhaut, N W A, Amps; *Malik, M A; Mant, L L, Petrochem UK; *Manuel, R; *Marian, A C; Maslin, M J; McMorrine, W, Drambuie Liqueur; *Meehan, C G; *Meehan, J, ITS; *Merton, P J, Trade Indemnity; Mistry, A V, Panalpina World Transport; Morton, D L, HM Forces; *Muller-Behrendt, U; Murlin, S R, Whale Tankers; Nasir, A, Trade Indemnity; Nicholls, M J, Montgomery Fabrics; Nikolov, N V; Nip, J T M; *Norie, J M, Kettle Produce; Nuzzi, A F, Tristao (UK); O'Connor, P E, Alcan Chems Europe; *Ofinmah, H; Okla, C P; *Olano, B; Olson, E W, Champbridge; O'Neill, L M, Diversey; Ormanroyd, J, Borden Decor Int; *O'Shea, T, Birkart Int; Panel, V K; *Phipps, D, Altr Prods; *Pinney, C R P, Rohm Electronics UK; Pollock, S J; *Popel, Z M, Reliance Gear; *Powell, E, Ravensworth; *Qu, S J, Moss Chemist; *Quinn, S M; Quraishi, M Q; *Read, K, Crosland Filters; Reid, J G, Scotch Malt Whisky Soc; Richards, C; *Richardson, P, Int; *Robinson, K, Parker Filtration; Rushton, D; *Sapwell, T J, SMC Pneumatics (UK); *Scott, C A, Bede Scientific; Scott, C, Synpac Pharms; Shamsi, S, Global Export Corp; Simmons, H L, Borden Chem UK; *Singh, S; *Skinner, C W, Sedgwick Credit; * Smith C M; *Smith, J A, East Mercia Ch of Comm and Ind; Smyth, M J M, Spicer Hallfield; *Spanner, K L, NCM Credit Ins; Stephens, A, Trade Indemnity; Stevenson, A; Stocks, A M, Rosehill Polymers; Stringfellow, E, Rectella; *Stuttard, D J, Nelson Hurst Political and Credit Risks; Swanston, H J, Wyman-Gordon; Swinney, J, Orchid Drinks; *Tanner, A R, Br Gas; Tharby, K S, Thyssen Garfield; *Thomas, A G; *Thomas, P, Kimberly-Clark; Tinney, V J, Marconi Radar and Control Systems; Torres, G S J, First Citizens Bank Trinidad; Vega, E, Cardiff Bar & Sections; *Waddilove, S M, Inst of Export; Wang-Orm, P, DTI-Business Link, Manchester; Watt, M J, Customs & Excise; Weaver, P J, Edinburgh Ch of Com; *Wheelan, S E, Ethicon; White, G, Scq; *Woods, D M, Edinburgh Weavers; Wright, J, Telcoat Wright, N J, Global Freight Servs; Yarrow, P A, Lee Steel Strip.

*Distinction in one or more papers in May 1996

School news

Sedbergh School
The Governors of Sedbergh School announce the appointment of Mr N.A.H. McKerrow as Bursar on the retirement of Mr J.G. Joice on December 31, 1996.

The Sedbergh School Appeal Fund, "Towards 500", launched in September, stands at more than £550,000. The Appeal Director, Brigadier Jeremy Gaskell, OBE, may be contacted at the School Appeal Office or by telephone or fax on 015396 22228.

Oh! What a Lovely War will be performed in Powell Hall November 21-23 at 7.30pm. The 107th match (The Wavell Wakefield Memorial Game) between Sedbergh and Loretto will be played on Busk Holme on Saturday, November 30, to be followed by the Rawthey Ball.

Entrance Scholarships and Exhibitions have been awarded to R.W.G. Ross (Bramcote, Scarborough), J.W.R. Baker (Gresham's & Cressbrook House), E.W.J. Burrill (Malsis), J.A. Forsyth (Hunter Hall & Cressbrook House), E.N. Hayles (QEGS Wakefield), A.A.D. Morbey (Beeston Hall), J.D. Symonds (Sedbergh Primary & Cressbrook House), G.H. Macklam (Durham Choristers), T.E.B. Nickell-Lean (Aysgarth), M.D. Ellwood (Bow), D.R. Graham (Kirkham G.S. & Cressbrook House).

Details of Academic, Music, Art and Sports Awards for the academic year 1997-98 may be obtained from the Headmaster, Sedbergh School, Sedbergh, Cumbria LA10 5HG, tel: 015396 20535.

Service dinners

Gurkha Brigade Association
The Prince of Wales was present at the centenary London dinner of the Gurkha Brigade held last night at the Army and Navy Club. Field Marshal Lord Bramall, KG, presided, assisted by Brigadier M.G. Hunt-Davis, chairman of the Gurkha Brigade Association.

Lloyd's Volunteer Forces Fund
Major-General Iain MacKay-Dick, General Officer Commanding London District, was the guest of honour at the tenth annual dinner of Lloyd's Volunteer Forces Fund held last night at the Duke of York's Headquarters. Mr Bryan Kellett, chairman of the fund, presided.

Lectures

World Congress of Faiths
The Archbishop of Canterbury delivered the 1996 Sir Francis Younghusband memorial lecture to mark the sixtieth anniversary of the World Congress of Faiths to the congress yesterday at Lambeth Palace. Professor Keith Ward, president, was in the chair. Mrs Sima Sharma and Dr M. Mashuq ibn Ally also spoke.

Gray's Inn
At the invitation of the Treasurer and Masters of the Bench of Gray's Inn, Professor Earl Russell, FBA, accompanied by Countess Russell, gave a lecture in hall on November 12 on "The independence of the judiciary in the first part of the 17th century". The Lord Chief Justice, Lord Bingham of Cornhill, proposed the vote of thanks.

Appointment

Dr Gillian Pugh to be Chief Executive of the Thomas Coram Foundation for Children from February 1.

Forthcoming marriages

Dr J.M. Calvert and Dr J.K. Stewart
The engagement is announced between James Matthew, son of Mr and Mrs Matthew Calvert, of Bearsden, Glasgow, and Jennifer Kathryn, eldest daughter of Dr and Mrs Alan Stewart, of Fulbourn, Cambridge.

Mr C.J.H. Lucas and Miss C.M. Ottewell
The engagement is announced between Charles James Hastings, son of Mr and Mrs Patrick Lucas, of Nailsea, North Somerset, and Caroline Mary, youngest daughter of the late Mr Ernest Ottewell and of Mrs Ottewell, of King's Newton, Derbyshire.

Mr D. Matthews and Miss T. Clark
The engagement is announced between David, only son of Mr and Mrs W. Matthews, of Sevenoaks, Kent, and Tanya, only daughter of Mrs C. Clark, of Warlingham, Surrey.

Mr A.G.F. May and Miss S.L. Alexander
The engagement is announced between Andrew, only son of Mr Christopher May, of Crockham Hill, Kent, and Mrs Alison Stein, of East Finchley, and Sally, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Colin Alexander, of Henley-on-Thames.

Mr J.R. Penn and Miss N.E. Skeet
The engagement is announced between James Richard, son of Mr and Mrs Sydney Penn, of Barnet, Hertfordshire, and Nicola Eugene, daughter of Mr Jack Lufkin Garland Skeet and Mrs Pamela Christine Skeet, of Bath, Avon.

Mr F.B. Schreuder and Miss F.M. Hayman
The engagement is announced between Frederik, elder son of Mr and Mrs Frederik Schreuder, of Johannesburg, South Africa, and Fiona, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Jarvis Hayman, of Goulburn, NSW, Australia.

Marriages

Signor G.A. Agnelli and Miss F.A. Howe
The marriage took place on Saturday, November 16, in Varramista, Pisa, Italy, of Signor Giovanni Alberto Agnelli to Miss Frances Avery Howe.

Mr D.J. Simmons and Miss A.M. Borthwick
The marriage took place on Friday, November 8, at Selkirk Parish Church, of Flying Officer Daniel Simmons, son of John Simmons and Angela Simmons, of Steyning, West Sussex, to Miss Alison Borthwick, daughter of Mr and Mrs Kenneth Borthwick, of Meggetland, Edinburgh.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Vicomte Ferdinand de Lesseps, promoter of the Suez Canal, Versailles, 1805; Tommy Dorsey, trombonist and bandleader, Shenandoah, Pennsylvania, 1905.

DEATHS: Theobald Wolfe Tone, Irish patriot, committed suicide, Dublin, 1798; Franz Schubert, composer, Vienna, 1828; Sir Basil Spence, architect, Eye, Suffolk, 1976.

Luncheon

HM Government
Mr Malcolm Rifkind, QC, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was the host at a luncheon given by Her Majesty's Government yesterday at 1 Carlton Gardens in honour of the Crown Prince of Luxembourg.

BMDS: 0171 680 6880
PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

PERSONAL COLUMN

TRADE: 0171 481 1982
FAX: 0171 481 9313

Jesus said, 'Let the children come to me, do not try to stop them; for the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these'. Luke 18 : 16

BIRTHS

ARMSTRONG - On 15th November 1996 in Kuala Lumpur, to Miranda (née Spendlove) and Dominic, a son, Henry Valentine McCausland.

CLEMENT - On 18th November, to Giulia (née Adams) and Pierre, a son, Sasha Anatole.

FERGUSON - On November 13th at The Portland Hospital, to Carolyn and Adrian, a beautiful daughter, Natasha. A sister for Alex and Ross.

HARTLEY - On 15th November in Kuala Lumpur, to Anne Buckingham and Christopher Hartley, a daughter, Samantha.

HILDITCH - On November 15th 1996, to Joanna (née Green) and Ian, a daughter, Hannah Constance, a sister for Willa.

HILL - On 16th November, to Sarah 'Square' (née Turnbull) and Russell, a son, George Edward Bustick.

HODSON - On 13th November, to Kate (née Bissill) and Mark, a wonderful daughter, Charlotte Adderley.

JACKSON - On 15th November at The Portland Hospital, to Judith and Ian, a son, Patrick Edwin, a brother for Robin.

JARDINE PATERSON - On November 15th 1996, to Clare (née Krefting) and Jeremy, a son.

JOHNSON - On 12th November at The Portland Hospital, to Susan (née Fitzjohn) and David, a daughter, Sarah Cordelia, a sister for Edward and Caroline.

LENNON - On November 15th, to Joanna (Gray) and Clyde, a daughter, Thea Victoria, sister for Angus.

MARRIOTT - On 1st November 1996, to David and Marie (*née Harvey*), the birth of a son, Douglas John, a brother for Niamh.

REES - On Sunday November 10th 1996, to Fiona (née Gibb) and Christopher, a daughter, Victoria Catherine, a sister for Isobel and Andrew.

ROBINSON - On 15th November at The Portland Hospital, to Carolyne (née Moore) and Alexander, a son, a brother for Francesca, Josephine and Edmund.

SAVAGE - On 30th October, to Suzie (née Thompson) and Paddy, the joy of a daughter, Imogen Charlotte Claire.

TAYLOR - On 15th November, to Catherine (née Elliott) and Julian, a daughter, Camilla Rose (Millie), a sister for Alexander and George.

THORNTON - On November 12th in Hong Kong, to Fiona and Edward, a son, Thomas Henry.

BIRTHS

UNWIN - On November 15th, to Arabella (née Fitzmaurice) and Rupert, a son, Abrahm Arthur George.

VAN PLETSEN - Uné on November 13th at The Portland Hospital, a beautiful daughter to Louis and Wilma and a sister for Luan.

VILLA - On October 26th 1996 at The Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, to Tracey (née Livett) and Jean-Philippe, a beautiful daughter, Anne-Laure Inès.

WILKINSON - On 8th November, to Shelagh and Iain, a son, Anthony Mark, a brother for James, Sam, Nicholas and Robert.

DEATHS

AIZLEWOOD - Phayre Marion Margaret on November 15th at home, beloved wife of Peter and mother of Susan, Robin, Sarah and Johnny. Funeral at St Mary's, Chastleton, on Friday 22nd November at 2.30 pm. Family flowers only. Donations to Riding for Disabled and St Mary's, Chastleton.

APPLEBY - Died at home on 15th November 1996 aged 83 years, Robert (formerly Chairman Black & Decker UK). Much respected by his colleagues and friends. Funeral Service takes place at St Paul's Church, Egham-Hythe, at 12 noon on Thursday 21st November 1996. Enquiries to Egham & Hythe Funeral Directors, 98 Thorpe Lea Road, Egham, Surrey, tel: (01784) 464749.

ASTILL - Timothy Preston Astill OBE FRPharmS, died suddenly on November 15th. Beloved husband of Ingrid, father of Matthew, Adam and Lucy, son of Mary and the late Roy. Director of National Pharmaceutical Association. Funeral at St Peter's Church, St Albans, at 1.30 pm on Thursday November 21st followed by private cremation. Memorial Service at a later date. Flowers to Phillips Funeral Directors, St Albans, (01727) 851006 by 10 am.

AYRES - On 15th November suddenly aged 61 Keith Harold. Funeral Friday 22nd November St Luke's, Grayshott, 12 midday followed by cremation at Guildford 1 pm. Family flowers only. Donations to Association For All Speech Impaired Children (AFASIC) c/o G.M. Luff, 84 Lion Lane, Haslemere GU27 1JH.

BEDDARD - Betty (née Welham) on November 14th, widow of Dr. Roger Beddard, much missed mother and grandmother. Private funeral at Semington Crematorium 12 noon 22nd November. No flowers.

DEATHS

BELL - Frances (née Elliott) died peacefully on November 14th in her 47th year, at the National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery, London, after a long illness borne with great dignity and courage. Beloved wife of John, daughter of Dorothy and the late Robert Alfred Elliott, brother of Robert Elliott and aunt to Robbie, Katharine and Jamie. Funeral Service at St Marylebone Parish Church, Marylebone Road, London NW1 on Tuesday, November 26th at 12 noon. A private, family burial will take place at a later date. Family flowers only. Donations to the Motor Neurone Disease Association, David Niven House, 10-15 Notre Dame Mews, Northampton NN1 2PR. Enquiries to Leverton and Sons, 212 Eversholt Street, London NW1, tel: (0171) 387-6075.

BEVAN - On 17th November, peacefully at Southampton General Hospital. Thomas Wayne, aged 91, of Lymington, Hampshire. Husband of the late Lucy Bevan (née Burdekin). Will be sadly missed by his daughter Ann Daley, her family and all his relations and friends in England and Australia. Cremation private at his request.

BLANDY - On 15th November at Funchal, Madeira. John Reeder, dearly loved husband of Bridget Blandy and father of Auriol, Richard, Edward, Michael and Rosemary, peacefully at home after a short illness at the end of his 87th year. Donations if desired towards The Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Funchal, c/o PO Box 408, Funchal, Madeira, Portugal.

CONRAD - Sheila (née Myer), on 18th November in her 86th year, peacefully after a brief illness borne with her usual patience and courage, deeply loved by her husband Eric and her daughters Jane Johnson and Barbara Baker, infinitely dear to her many friends. Funeral Service at Golders Green Crematorium on Monday 25th November, 2.30 pm West Chapel. No flowers please. Donations if desired to Winged Fellowship Trust, Angel House, Pentonville Road, N1.

CONROY-DAVIES - Katherine on November 10th 1996, widow of Ernest William, peacefully at Hereford Hospital aged 86. Funeral has taken place.

COOMBE - On November 16th 1996, suddenly in a car accident, Margaret Patience Wasteneys, in her 81st year, dearly loved mother of Zigi and Carol and very, very special to her seven grandchildren. Funeral Service at St Mary's, Frensham, at 1 pm on Friday November 22nd, followed by a private cremation. Family flowers only please; donations in lieu to Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice, Waverley Lane, Farnham, Surrey.

DAVIES - Leslie Alfred on 14th November 1996 suddenly in hospital aged 72 years, dearly loved husband of Jo, father of Elizabeth, Murray and Simon and grandfather to Rebecca, Lucy, Guy, Emily, Juliet and William. Funeral Service at The Mid-Warwickshire Crematorium, Oakley Wood, near Warwick, on Tuesday 26th November at 11 am. Family flowers only please but donations may be sent for the Aircrew Association, the RSPB or the Asthma Research Centre c/o A.E. Bennett & Sons, 34 Sheep Street, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire CV37 6EE.

ELGAR - Maryse, peacefully at home, 14th November 1996. Funeral Service to take place at St Tarcisius Church, Camberley, 22nd November at 11.30 am, followed by cremation. Enquiries to E. Finch & Sons, tel: (01252) 22281.

FIELD-SMITH - On 16th November, Meriel, aged 78, beloved wife of John, loving mother of Robin, and his wife Mary, and devoted granny to Matthew, Antonia, and James, after a long battle against cancer fought with a determination which has been an inspiration to all. Private cremation followed by Memorial and Thanksgiving Service at St Michael and All Angels, Sunninghill, on Monday 25th November at 2.30 pm. No flowers please, but donations to "Meriel's Fund", to be shared between the Paul Bevan Cancer Centre and the Thames Valley Hospice, may be sent to Mrs S. Creasey, 14 Wellesley Drive, Crowthorne, RG45 6AL.

GALLEGOS - Adrian MBE, late Lieutenant Commander RNVR SOE Naval Section, died peacefully, aged 89, in Marbella, Spain, on 17th November 1996. Greatly missed by his family and friends.

GORDON - On November 11th, in hospital, Daphne Mavis, formerly of Highgate, beloved mother of Michael.

GILL - Phyllis Joan (née Walter), wife of the late Humphrey Clarendon Gill, peacefully at home on November 8th 1996 aged 87. Funeral Service will take place on Friday November 22nd at St Margaret's Church, Cley-Next-Sea, Norfolk at 11 am, followed by interment at St Margaret's Churchyard. Flowers to Gordon Barber Funeral Home, 317 Aylsham Road, Norwich, NR3 2AB by 9am please.

GRAHAM - Dr. James Malcolm, on November 17th 1996, peacefully at The Royal Hospital, Chesterfield, much loved husband of the late Marjorie, father of David and father-in-law of Pari. Remembered with love and affection by his family and friends. Funeral Service at Chesterfield Crematorium on Friday November 22nd at 3pm. Family flowers only, donations if desired to the NSPCC, c/o Hattersleys, 211 Chatsworth Road, Chesterfield.

GREIG - Peacefully at Kirriemuir on November 16th 1996, Ethel Archibald, dearly beloved wife of the late Professor James Greig, much loved mother of the late Isabel. Service in St Mary's Episcopal Church, Kirriemuir, on Thursday November 21st at 2.15 pm. Funeral thereafter to Dundee Crematorium arriving 3.30 pm. All friends please accept this intimation and invitation.

HARMAN - Peacefully on 16th November at Shaftesbury Hospital, Gwladys, greatly loved wife of Jackie for 49 years and previously of the late Ronald Murphy, beloved mother of Lois, Gronia and Virginia, devoted grandmother of Anstey, Harriet, Selina and Madeleine, and beloved sister of Nancy McDowall. Requiem Mass at The Church of All Saints, Wardour, nr. Tisbury, Wiltshire, at 12 noon on 22nd November. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to SSAFA, The King's House, 65 The Close, Salisbury, Wilts. SP1 2EN. Enquiries to Merefield and Hemstridge, (01747) 853532.

HARROLD - Bernard A.E., ISO, quietly at home on Friday November 15th after a long illness. Fondly remembered by his wife, family and friends. Funeral Thursday November 21st, 2 pm at All Saints Church, Headley. Family flowers. Donations to Barnardos and Headley 2000 Fund.

HAYDON - Major Henry, RAOC (Ret'd), on 16th November at St Helier Hospital, Carshalton, aged 82. Dearest husband of Rachel, father of Elizabeth Anne, Gaie, Kyra, Nikki and Henry, grandfather of Clare, Nicholas, Rachel and Guy, Ben and Becky, Danny and Ollie, and William Henry and great-grandfather of Zoe and Esther. Requiem Mass at Holy Cross Church, North Street, Carshalton, 3 pm Friday 22nd November. May he rest in peace. Family flowers only. Donations in lieu to Oxfam Zaire Appeal or Shelter c/o Trueloves, 109 Stafford Road, Wallington, SM6 9AP.

HEYDT - Baroness Vera Von Der Heydt, peacefully at St Wilfrid's Convent, Tite Street, London SW3, in her 97th year, on 14th November 1996. Funeral Service and Requiem Mass to take place at St Mary's Church, Cadogan Street, London SW3 on Wednesday, 27th November at 12 noon, followed by private cremation. Flowers and enquiries to A. France & Son Ltd., tel: (0171) 405-4901.

HOLLANDS - Peacefully on Saturday 16th November 1996 after a short unexpected illness, Clive Thomas Patrick Hollands OBE. Devoted husband, father and grandfather. In respect of his wishes there will be a private cremation and no funeral service. No letters or flowers please. Anyone so desiring, may donate in his memory to one of his favourite charities, Borders Animal Welfare Association, Caberstone, Walkerburn, EH43 6AA.

HUDSON - Sir Havelock died peacefully on 14th November at home in Stanford Dingley. Much loved husband of the late Cathleen. Loving father of Anthony, Rory, Louise and Guy and loved Step-father of Sarah and David. Devoted Grandfather and Step-grandfather. Private cremation, followed by service and interment for family and friends at Saint Denys Church, Stanford Dingley on Monday 25th November at 12.30pm. Family flowers only. Donations to The Brendoncare Foundation, Brendon House, Park Road, Winchester, Hampshire. SO23 7BE.

KALIM - Azhar on 12th November 1996, age 63, suddenly and peacefully at home in Leytonstone; buried on 15th November 1996. MA (Oxon), Solicitor. Eldest son of the late Professor Kalimuddin Ahmad and the late Mrs Zahra Ahmad of Patna, India. Much loved father of Sara; nephew of Saleha; brother to Farida, Arif, Zaira and Fariz; and friend to all.

JENNER - On November 14th, peacefully after a long illness, Francis Harold (Frank) Jenner B.Sc., M.R.C.V.S. Loving husband of Ellan and a devoted father and grandfather. Service of Thanksgiving at All Saints' Church, Woodside, Lymington on Friday November 22nd at 12 noon. Family flowers only, donations, if desired, for Alzheimer's Disease Society may be sent c/o F.W. House & Sons, Funeral Directors, Lymington, Hampshire.

LOCKYER - Roger W, Captain Royal Navy, died peacefully at home, aged 50, on 15th November 1996. Beloved and cherished husband of Sue and loving father and friend of Simon and Richard. Funeral Service Saturday 23rd November at 12.30 pm, St Augustine's, West Monkton, Taunton. Donations to St Margaret's Hospice, Taunton and Macmillan Fund, c/o E. White and Son, 138/9 East Reach, Taunton, TA1 3HN.

MANN - Alastair Robert on 16th November aged 70, with Malayan Civil Service until 1960 and then the UK Electricity Industry. Funeral at Golders Green Crematorium on Monday 25th November at 2 pm. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to Central and Cecil Housing Trust for the Care of the Elderly c/o Leverton & Sons, 181 Haverstock Hill, Hampstead, NW3 4QS.

MOORE - MSc, M.Inst.C.E. On 17th November 1996 suddenly after a short illness and of Hartford, Lee, Moore, aged 82 years, the beloved Husband of Enid, Father of Mark and Ross and Grandad of David. Funeral Service at Hartford Parish Church on Friday 22nd November at 12.30 pm followed by Committal at Altrincham Crematorium. Family flowers only please, donations if wished for The Macmillan Nurses and The Listening Library. Donations and enquiries to George Bell Funeral Service, 49 Birches Lane, Lostock Green, Northwich. Tel: (01606) 42534.

OLDHAM - Frank who passed away on 16th November, lovingly remembered by his wife Joan and daughter Eugenie. Funeral Service on Monday 25th November at Holy Apostles Church, Winchester Street, Pimlico at 1 pm. No flowers please, donations to RNLI c/o Chelsea Funeral Directors, 260B Fulham Road, SW10 9EL.

MURRAY - On 17th November 1996, Kitty, widow of Bernard A. Murray MC, at the age of 87. Cremation private. At her request instead of a funeral service her chosen hymns and readings will be included at Matins in Bayford Church. This special service will be held on Friday 22nd November at 11am. No flowers, donations can be given to The Salvation Army.

PARSONS - Geoffrey, Col. R.A.O.C. (Ret'd). Beloved husband of Rhona and devoted father and grandfather. Peacefully at home on 18th November, 1996. Service of Thanksgiving at St Mary's Church, Wargrave 2.30 pm Friday 22nd November. Family flowers only please. Enquiries to A.B. Walker and Son Limited. Tel: 0118 9573650.

POPPLEWELL - Jack, playwright and composer, peacefully at his home near Bath, on November 16th 1996 with immense dignity from cancer. Beloved husband of Betty who predeceased him in August, adored father of Juliet and Vanessa, greatly loved grandfather of Jeremy, Sophia, Joanna, Simon and Oliver, and great-grandfather of Oscar and Archie Jack. Funeral Service at All Saints Church, Corston, Bath on Friday November 22nd at 3.30 pm followed by private burial at sea. All enquiries to Jolly's Funeral Directors, tel: (01225) 426822.

RUSHEN - Ronald Edwin, on November 14th 1996 peacefully in Poole, Dorset after a long retirement following a successful career with ICI. Beloved husband of Connie and dearly loved uncle to his nephews Richard, Geoffrey, Andrew and their families. Funeral Service at Poole Crematorium on Thursday, 21st November at 12 noon. Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired to London Association for the Blind. All enquiries to D'Angibau Willmot tel: (01202) 708634.

STEENGRACHT VAN MOYLAND - On Monday, 18th November, peacefully at home with his family, Baron Antony Steengracht van Moyland. Beloved husband of Sheila, father of Jane, Victoria, Nicola and John and grandfather of Joe, Stephanie, Louise, Tom, Hannah and Charlie. Funeral service after burial at St Mary's Church, Monmouth on Saturday, 23rd November at 2.30 pm. Family flowers only, donations, in his memory, for the St David's Foundation and Community Nurses may be sent to David Stockwell, Funeral Directors, Glendower Street, Monmouth.

SIMPSON - Florence May (née Prescott) of Knotty-Ash, Liverpool, died Tuesday 12th November 1996. Beloved wife of Ronald and mother of Stephen. Service at Anfield Crematorium 11am today 19th November 1996. Any enquiries to 0941 119235.

STOCK - Mollie Haslock (née Creech) died peacefully on Sunday November 17th in her 83rd year, after 66 years as the beloved wife of Geoffrey. At her request private cremation.

STORRS FOX - On 16th November, Donald in his 102nd year, late Kenya Colonial Administration. Loved and loving husband of the late Betty (née Dickson). All enquiries to J & J Mettam, Bakewell, tel: (01629) 812114.

STRUDWICK - On November 15th Mary Eleanor Strudwick, formerly of Bickley and Ifield. Requiem and committal at St Katharine's House, Wantage, November 22nd, noon. Donations to Children's Society c/o H.J. Knapp, 4 Church Street, Wantage, Oxon. OX12 8BL.

SURTEES - Major John Freville Henry Surtees, OBE, MC. On 18th November, peacefully after a short illness. Much loved husband of Marian and father of Anna and Christian. Funeral private. Memorial Service in London to be announced later.

VAN MOYLAND - See Steengracht van Moyland.

WALKER - On November 16th, Caroline Henrietta (née Clive), wife of the late Major Johnnie Walker, died very peacefully at home surrounded by her family. The funeral will be held on Friday 22nd November at St John the Evangelist Church, Sutton Veny at 11.30 am. Family flowers only, donations if desired to the Work of The Sacred Heart Society in the Uganda Mission Provence, c/o F. Curtis & Son, Funeral Directors, 11 Portway, Warminster, Wilts. BA12 8QG.

WRIGHTMAN - On November 15th 1996 peacefully in Rustington, Sussex, Fred aged 91 years, beloved husband of Catherine. All enquiries please to F.A. Holland & Son, Terminus Road, Littlehampton, tel: (01903) 713939.

WHITE - On 14th November, Stanley Woodward. Funeral Service at Putney Vale Crematorium, Friday 22nd November at 2.30 pm. Enquiries Frank W. Paine (0181) 946-1974.

VANE - Beryl died peacefully on 14th November at the Sue Ryder Home, Leckhampton. She will be missed by very many people. A Requiem Service is to be held at Cirencester Parish Church of St John Baptist on Thursday 21st November at 11 am, followed by committal at Taddington Church, Derbyshire on Friday 22nd November at 2pm. Please do not send any flowers, but a donation to the Sue Ryder Home for Palliative Care, Leckhampton Court, Leckhampton, Cheltenham would be very much appreciated. Laus Deo. Donations to be sent c/o Cowley and Son Ltd., Triangle House, 62 Victoria Road, Cirencester, Glos. GL7 1ES, tel: (01285) 653298.

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

GREENSHAW - Ellen, dearly loved and deeply missed. Alan.

HORSFALL - Sonya, died 19/11/93. You haven't been forgotten. Nina and Nikita.

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OBITUARIES

REGINALD BEVINS

Reginald Bevins, PC, former Postmaster-General and Conservative MP for Toxteth, Liverpool, 1950-64, died on November 16 aged 88. He was born on August 20, 1908.

Reginald Bevins belonged to the era when the Conservatives still held six out of Liverpool's then nine parliamentary seats. But he was an unusual phenomenon even for that period in that, before becoming a Conservative MP, he had served as a Labour member of Liverpool City Council. Once in the Commons, he joined the very select band of working-class Tory MPs — in the postwar era certainly no disadvantage when it came to preferment. He may well have owed his rise within the party — first to be Parliamentary Secretary at the Ministry of Works, then at the Ministry of Housing and Local Government and finally to Cabinet rank as Postmaster-General — as much to his background as anything else.

John Reginald Bevins was born in Liverpool, one of five children of a commercial traveller who later became a shopkeeper. He was educated at Dovedale Road Elementary School and then at Liverpool Collegiate, a grammar school which drew its pupils from all over the city. On leaving school, he immediately joined the Labour Party — serving as election agent for it in two successive general elections (1929 and 1931) in the safe Conservative constituency of Wavertree. In 1935 he was elected to Liverpool City Council as a Labour councillor.

But, according to his own account, disillusion was not slow in setting in. Resentful of left-wing attacks on Neville Chamberlain after Munich — and anyway disenchanted by the brawl-like atmosphere of the meetings of the Labour caucus — he abandoned the Labour Party and joined the Tories even before the Second World War broke out.

He spent the entire war with the Army, first in the Royal Artillery and then with a commission in the Royal Army Service Corps, where he rose to be a major. Back sitting now as a Tory on Liverpool City Council, he unsuccessfully fought the 1945 general election as a Conservative in West Toxteth, two years later losing again at a by-election, this time in the Edgehill division.

The general election of 1950, however, brought him his reward. Given the new combined seat of Toxteth to fight by the Liverpool Tory machine, he succeeded in capturing it by 2,620 votes (even at that election, thanks to the Orange vote, the Conservatives held five out the city's nine seats). In Parliament Bevins had one early stroke of luck. Although he had never met him, he was invited by Harold Macmillan — no doubt advised by the Chief Whip of the day, Patrick Buchan-Hepburn (a former MP for East Toxteth) — to become his Parliamentary Private Secretary. Bevins accepted with alacrity and never regretted it.

In the initial days of the 1951 Churchill Government, the Ministry of Housing was where a great deal of the action took place. Coming to office with a pledge to build 300,000 new houses a year, the whole Government (minus perhaps R. A. Butler at the Treasury) realised how important it was for the party to fulfil that promise. Macmillan, therefore, tended to get his way in Cabinet, even on such matters as the import of raw materials, in face of the vain protests of the Chancellor. And, in the ministry itself, morale was high, too. "We shall have a great party," Macmillan had told Bevins on inviting him to join him — and that, in effect, with one of the most talented and energetic teams in Whitehall, is what they did.

Promotion to membership of the Government came for Bevins in 1953 but, after his days as bag-carrier to Macmillan, the Ministry of Works proved something of a backwater. The truth, of course, was that he and his first minister — the elegant but somewhat aloof Sir David Eccles — were chalk and cheese, and things did not notably improve under the two successors he subsequently served. It was, therefore, with some relief after nearly four years that he learnt that he would be returning to the Ministry of Housing, though not on any promotion but still in the rank of Parliamentary Under-Secretary (junior ministers, like curates, tended to serve longer apprenticeships in those days).

The consolation prize for Bevins was that he found himself under Henry Brooke for whom, slightly improbably (since no one could have had less in common with the new Prime Minister), he conceived an admiration only slightly less than that which he had originally felt for Macmillan. It fell to the freshly recruited Parliamentary Under-Secretary to handle a good deal of the legislative work on the first Tory Rent Act of 1957 — an experience which, given the storm of protest it provoked, probably justified his belief that he had finally worked his passage as a junior minister.

When promotion eventually came — after Macmillan's victory at the 1959 election — it was not, however, in the shape he had foreseen. Bevins had hoped that he might be appointed to the Ministry of Health — at the time one of the borderline posts, sometimes in and sometimes out of the Cabinet. Instead, however, he was offered the job of Postmaster-General, a position that had not been in the Cabinet since 1924 and was generally rated as the most junior among all the government departments.

Just past his 51st birthday Bevins, though, threw himself into his new responsibilities with vigour. There was a lot going on in terms of broadcasting — the Pilkington report came out during his period of office, the BBC was about to acquire the third channel and the ITV companies were becoming increasingly restive about the Treasury levy. Bevins, however, soon proved that he was less amenable to pressure from the ITV moguls than some of his predecessors.

In doing so — and successfully piloting the 1963 Television Act through the Commons — he rather blotted his copybook with some of his colleagues, who did not wish to alienate prospective corporate contributors in the run-up period to an election. But, as things worked out, Bevins's nerve held better than anyone else's, and the Bill went through, including the provision that in future the Treasury levy should apply to turnover rather than to profits.

By standing out in the face of pleas from figures in the higher reaches of the party he had, however, hardly strengthened his own political standing. He was also to lose the protection of his original patron, since Macmillan resigned through ill-health in the autumn of 1963. Bevins, a supporter of the Chancellor, Reginald Maudling, was one of the more vociferous opponents of Alec Douglas-Home's accession — announcing in the green room of a television studio when he heard the news that that was the next election lost.

All this, and his feeling that the Tory party had been handed back to the grandees (he once ruefully reflected at a ministers' meeting at Chequers that of all those present only he and Ernest Marples could not boast of owning a country estate) did something to account for his vulnerability when the last challenge of his political career confronted him.

In 1962 the Conservative Government had decisively beaten a lengthy postal strike but two years later the Union of Post Office Workers was back with a fresh claim. This time Bevins took it seriously — arguing to the Cabinet that the best course would be settle it at 5 per cent before the election got too close. He received, however, absolutely no support from the Cabinet — to whom he had hardly endeared himself over the ITV levy — and was ordered to stand firm. The consequence was exactly as he had predicted. By July, with an election round the corner, the Government capitulated at 6½ per cent — and the Postmaster-General found himself made the whipping boy for having "opened the floodgates to higher wages".

For once, however, "the colleagues", as Tory ministers were known in those days, had misjudged their man. Reginald Bevins was no Christopher Soames — who in similar circumstances allowed himself to be offered up by Margaret Thatcher as a ritual sacrifice for the successful Civil Service strike of 1981. The old socialist from Liverpool was made of sterner stuff.

Losing his seat in Toxteth, as he expected, at the 1964 general election, Bevins promptly proceeded to exact his revenge. Scarcely was the Wilson Government through its first hundred days than in January 1965 a series of articles started appearing in the *Sunday Express* in which the Conservative Party found all its social snobbery and antediluvian tendencies examined and analysed.

At that time especially such "telling tales out of school" simply was not done — and Bevins, who was later that year to expand the articles into a short book entitled *The Greasy Pole*, soon found himself cast as a pariah. Although he had been sworn of the Privy Council on his appointment as Postmaster-General in 1959, no further mark of official recognition ever came to him. His announcement in June 1965 that he would not be fighting the Toxteth seat at the next election merely ratified the ending of a political career that was already effectively over.

In his retirement from politics Bevins continued to practise occasional political journalism — poignantly hinting in an interview as late as 1968 that he might yet return to politics — but found his main occupation as managing director of a Halifax firm called F. Francis and Sons (Holdings) with interests in boilers, lifts and plastics. In his latter years he had suffered sustained ill-health and had been under professional care.

He is survived by his wife Nora, whom he married in 1933, and by three sons, one of whom is political editor of *The Independent*.

KENNETH MORTON EVANS

Lieutenant-Colonel Kenneth Morton Evans, OBE, wartime Radio Security Service and MI5 officer, died on October 23 aged 86. He was born on November 19, 1909.

THE Government Code and Cipher School, which was located at Bletchley Park, has earned a celebrated reputation for its performance during the Second World War in cracking German military and diplomatic codes and thereby unwrapping the secrets of their Engima ciphering machine. But for these feats to be performed the radio messages first had to be detected, recorded and passed on to the analysers.

Early in the summer of 1939, when war seemed inevitable to many, Lord Sandhurst of MI5 approached Arthur Watts, then president of the Radio Society of Great Britain, to enlist the services of his widespread network of radio hams, those dedicated enthusiasts who know each other best by their five-digit alphanumeric call signs, in order to supplement the inadequate national radio-location and direction-finding capacity.

As a Territorial Army officer and with five years' amateur experience in radio, Morton Evans was soon recruited into an organisation of eventually more than 1,500 Voluntary Interceptors, or VIs, originally asked to locate enemy agents operating transmitters within Great Britain. All civilian transmitters had been impounded, but the receivers were not.

Known as MI8(c), or the Radio Security Service (RSS), the headquarters of the organisation was originally at Wormwood Scrubs prison until bombed out, when it moved to Arkley View, near Barnet. It soon became clear that there were no radio-operating spies around, but the network did discover a large number of distant-sounding signals with unusual operating procedures which did not fit into the normal peacetime classes of traffic. Volunteers were each given a section of the short-wave spectrum to search for such signals. Used to working with very faint emissions from other hams around the world, these amateurs turned out to be highly skilled at reading and recording German wireless traffic.

From these small beginnings, the RSS was expanded and equipped to undertake interception, collation and direction-finding activities. In 1941 it became answerable to Brigadier Richard Gambier-Parry, the communications head of the Secret Intelligence Service, MI6, who asked Morton Evans to take over the running of the Arkley View headquarters as deputy controller, RSS.

Towards the end of the war in Europe, Morton Evans and seven others were given back their transmitters in order to trail a coat in front of German radio amateurs. But Operation Flypaper, as it was called, was not thought to have had a measurable effect. Evans was appointed OBE in 1946 for his services to the RSS.

Leaving the Army as a lieutenant-colonel, he worked for MI5 and was Head of Registry when he retired in 1963. Between 1954 and 1957 he was seconded to the Atomic Energy Authority.

Kenneth Morton Evans was educated at Charterhouse and New College, Oxford, where he read physics and chemistry. Upon graduation, and following the death of his father, he managed the family estates at Llangennech in Carmarthenshire, while also joining the Territorial Army.

At the outbreak of war he, with several others of his regiment, had the great misfortune to be infected with *trichinosis* from undercooked pork sausage. The resulting persistent illness prevented foreign service and affected his long-term health.

In retirement he preserved his enthusiasm for amateur radio and his many and widespread acquaintances included a Leicestershire farmer with whom he had been in frequent contact for more than half a century. A skier in his youth, he also had keen horticultural interests and a deep scientific knowledge.

He married his second wife, Gina Clough-Taylor, in 1964 and is survived by her and the son and daughter of the first marriage.

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MARY EMILY LUNAN of 8 Cottingham Road, London SW8, widow, died on 7 July 1996. Particulars to Harbottle & Lewis, Hanover House, 14 Hanover Square, London W1R 0BE, Administratrix: Ann Teresa Lunan. Claims before 20 January 1997.

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LARS-AKE NILSSON

Lars-Ake Nilsson, Swedish Ambassador to the Court of St James's, died on November 5 aged 53. He was born on May 23, 1943.

SWEDEN could not have sent a better Ambassador to London than Lars-Ake Nilsson, and Britain could not have hoped for a better Swedish representative. With his death after fewer than two years in the post, Sweden has lost one of its most brilliant diplomats and Britain has lost a devoted friend and admirer.

Lars-Ake Nilsson was born in Eslov in the southern part of Sweden and graduated from the School of Economics in Lund in 1968. The same year he entered the Swedish foreign service.

Even early on in his career he was entrusted with important tasks. When the relations between Sweden and the United States were extremely strained in the early 1970s, as a result of critical remarks made by Olof Palme, the Swedish Prime Minister, about American involvement in Vietnam, the Swedish Foreign Office sent Nilsson to Washington to join the small political section of the Embassy. He was extremely successful in opening up communication channels with US government officials, congressmen and journalists. His cables and reports back to Stockholm enabled the Swedish Government to get a realistic picture of the diplomatic crisis, as well as of the eventual signs of an emerging relaxation of the indignation of the US Government.

Nilsson's performance as a young embassy staffer in Washington attracted attention in Stockholm, and he was entrusted with other sensitive assignments, both at home and abroad. From 1981 to 1984 he was the political counsellor at the London Embassy — an assignment that was not difficult, given the warm relations between Sweden and the United Kingdom. During those three years in London he was confirmed in his belief that he had cherished from his youth: that the United Kingdom is a most civilised country.

After a couple of years as the deputy chief of mission in Moscow, Nilsson was appointed Ambassador to Prague in 1988. He was quick to recognise that the Communist regime was coming to an end. He became the friend of the leaders of the democratic opposition whom the secret police in vain tried to isolate. And when Vaclav Havel and his collaborators took over Free Czechoslovakia, Nilsson served as an informal adviser in foreign policy matters.

Back in Stockholm, when Carl Bildt formed a coalition Government in 1991, he saw Nilsson as the obvious choice for the post as the number two in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. During the three years that he stayed as Permanent Under-Secretary he was the unchallenged foreign policy adviser to the Cabinet. Although the four political parties in the coalition Government all shared the same foreign policy philosophy — closer relations with Europe while maintaining the traditional policy of neutrality — there were often differences of opinion in various concrete matters. Nilsson showed a mastery in drafting compromise solutions.

When the Bildt Government was ousted in 1994 and the Social Democratic Party once again took over the Government, Nilsson was appointed Ambassador to London. He was fascinated by the political power play in Britain and loved to go to the party conferences. His dispatches to Stockholm about British foreign and domestic policy found a most interested readership. But he could now also devote time to his hobbies, British football, horse racing and British literature.

Nilsson is survived by his wife Charlotte.

ON THIS DAY

November 19, 1910

By the end of the day 119 arrests had been made. Votes for women were granted in 1918 for those over 30; ten years later the age was lowered to 21, and in 1969 the voting age for all was reduced to 18.

SUFFRAGE RAIDERS.

DISORDERLY SCENES AND ARRESTS AT WESTMINSTER.

The suffrage extremists resumed their "militant" policy yesterday with a continuous series of attempts to force a way to the House of Commons in support of a deputation which they knew would not be received.

A crowded meeting was held at noon by the Women's Social and Political Union in the Caxton Hall.

The following memorial to the Prime Minister was unanimously adopted:- "This meeting of women, gathered together in the Caxton Hall, protests against the policy of shuffling and delay with which the agitation for woman's enfranchisement has been met by the Government, and calls upon the Government at once to withdraw the veto which they have placed upon the Conciliation Bill for woman's suffrage, a measure which has been endorsed by the representatives of the people in the House of Commons."

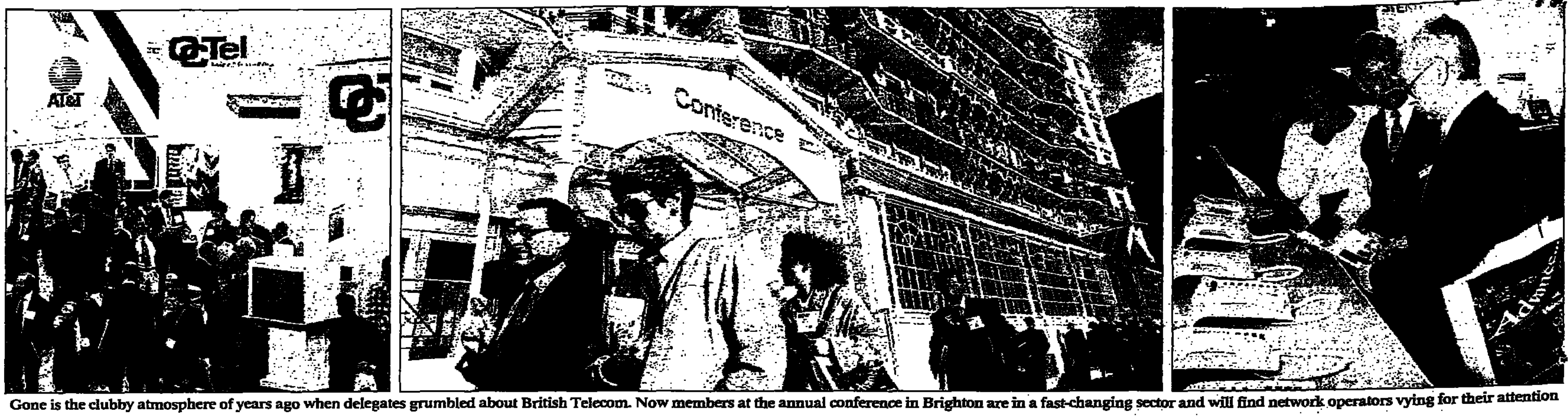
It was arranged that the deputation, about 300 strong, should proceed to the House of Commons in detachments. The first detachment, numbering perhaps 20, included Mrs. Pankhurst and other leading ladies, and reached St. Stephen's entrance at 20 minutes past one. A number of their comrades had for some time been parading the road there with banners inscribed "No more shuffling, carry the Bill," "There is time if they've the will," and "Down with the Premier's veto." A considerable crowd had collected.

The first ladies to arrive were allowed to stand just outside the entrance to the House, and remained there quietly. The crowd pushed forward and covered the road till the police began to clear the thoroughfare. The banner-bearers had now grouped themselves in front of the throng, and as they were being pushed back with the rest their banners went down one by one, apparently snatched by members of the crowd, and were torn and smashed into shreds and fragments. At frequent intervals a woman would disengage herself from the mass and rush across the road, or as far as she could get before a policeman or two gave chase, caught her, and pushed her back through the crowd.

The pavement at the back of the Abbey was now cleared, and presently the crowd was driven right back to Bridge-street. Before that operation was completed, however, a woman rushed at the wall of Palace-yard and tried to climb over. She was captured just in time. One of her comrades, however, slipped through the cordon, got on to the wall, and tried to climb or fling herself down into the yard, a height of 12 or 15 feet. She was apparently unused to mountaineering or her dress caught on a buttress, and she was saved from a dangerous fall by two policemen, who caught her before she reached the ground. Several police had their helmets knocked off in carrying out their duty, one was disabled by a kick on the ankle, one was cut on the face by a belt, and one had his hand cut . . .

The number of persistent raiders who were put under arrest had risen to over 80 at dusk, but even then deputations continued to arrive from Caxton Hall. Each batch made a dash at the police cordon, and when the House rose, about 6 o'clock, 119 arrests had been made . . .

As telecommunications managers prepare for their annual conference, **Ian Scales** reports on the impact of upheavals in the industry



Gone is the clubby atmosphere of years ago when delegates grumbled about British Telecom. Now members at the annual conference in Brighton are in a fast-changing sector and will find network operators vying for their attention

The battle for your telephone line

When the UK's telecommunications managers assemble in Brighton for their annual conference, they will expect to be told just how far the UK telecoms industry has come and how they should brace themselves for even more change in the future. Even the sleepiest sectors hear these sorts of sentiments, but it is difficult to think of another to which they could be better applied.

A Telecommunications Managers Association conference ten to 15 years ago was a clubby get-together where delegates grumbled gently about the terms on which British Telecom allowed them to connect their companies' telephone systems to the public network.

At Brighton this week BT will be just one of dozens of network operators and service providers vying for delegates' attention at the associated exhibition as the battle for their hearts, minds and budgets enters a new phase.

Any telecoms operator can now apply to become a fully licensed UK international operator, where before BT and Mercury had a duopoly. Number portability services have been launched so that a change of operator need not mean a change of number, with its attendant expense and inconvenience. While this feature is expected to have the greatest impact on the residential market, where the cable companies are clawing customers from BT's clutches, it will eventually be applied to business customers where the requirement for a number change is thought to have dampened the effects of service competition.

International services is also a booming market and, again, it is the UK's large organisations that are the plum targets. But fresh in the minds of all those attending the conference will be the two seismic corporate realignments. After talk of a merger with BT, Cable & Wireless eventually opted to take most of the UK's cable industry under its wing. Then, only weeks later, BT announced that it would merge with MCI, its American global service partner. The industry as a whole is still absorbing the likely immediate and long-term impact of this shuffle of the deck.

Licensed as a patchwork of cable television franchises, the cable communications industry has found its geographical fragmentation a serious barrier to telecoms competition and mergers had long been urged and expected. But the sudden consolidation of Mercury Communications, NYNEX Cablecomms, Bell Cablemedia and Videotron took the cable industry by surprise.

> ‘BT has not yet been forced to implement equal access’

The move put more than half of the existing franchised homes under the control of one group leaving Telewest, previously the largest operator with its four million franchised homes, three remaining operators with between one and two million homes and a rump of minnows. Further consolidations are expected.

Now Cable and Wireless Communications, as the new group is called, faces a lengthy business re-engineering process as it attempts to knit its still-fragmented holdings together.

BT's decision to throw in its lot with MCI is a final recognition that publicly quoted incumbent operators must take their focus offshore if they are to keep their revenues growing in the longer term. Without the merger, BT could only look forward to having its UK market share chipped away.

While the telecoms services' cake itself is growing, due in part to competition, BT's slice and the tightening noose thrown around its profits by the regulator means it must find new, growing revenue streams if the shareholders are to be kept happy. BT has cash and MCI needs it to take advantage of the opportunities created by deregulation in the UK market.

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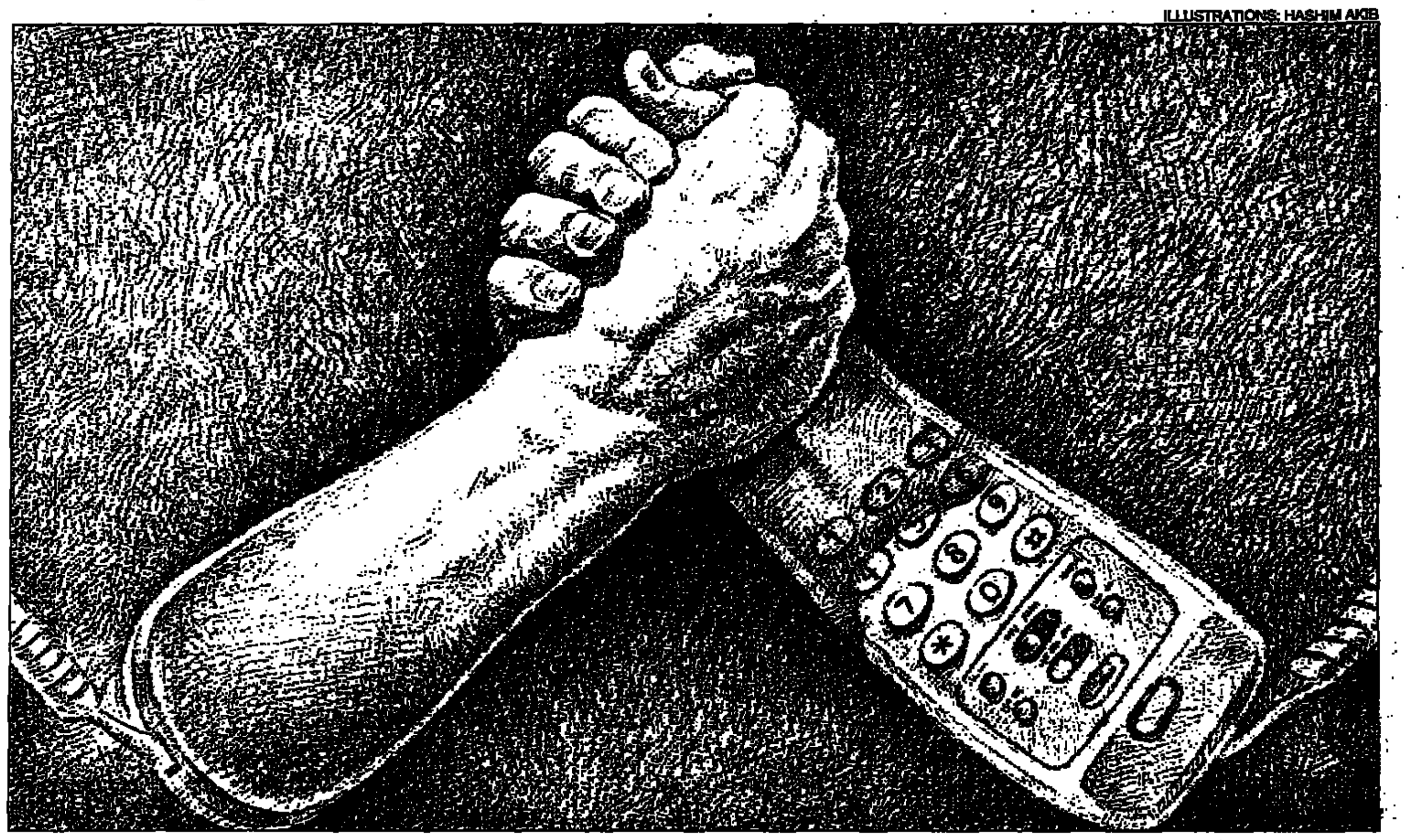

For telecoms users both moves can only serve to quicken the pulse of competition in the UK market. While some concerns have been expressed over the development of a new duopoly through the formation of Cable and Wireless Communications, this move also makes it more likely that the cable groups as now constituted will end up competing head on with each other where before they tended to cooperate. And Mercury, after all, will continue to compete with the remaining cable operators for business customers.

Delivering business services by microwave radio could be one means by which this new competition could be brought to bear without further digging up the streets. There are signs of unease, however.

Telia UK, a subsidiary of the Swedish national operator which offers international telecoms services to UK buisness users, claims there is a danger that "smaller, innovative operators" could be squeezed out.

At present the cable companies do not have to give their customers access to competitive service providers like Telia. BT and Mercury do. But in fact it is more likely that the regulator will eventually move to change the rules, at least for those access operators who build a significant customer base. Some UK operators think the regulatory environment could still tip more in the direction of new entrants. In the UK the principle that BT customers should be able to use the services of another operator — for international calls for instance — has been well established.

> ‘There are lots of benefits flowing from the merger’

But BT has not yet been forced to implement completely equal access as it is applied in the United States. There, subscribers are able to nominate the long distance carrier of their choice and all their calls are routed to the right network. In the UK, BT remains the default option for its customers, who must dial a prefix to use an alternative carrier.

AT&T is especially keen that BT be subject to this requirement and views its proposed merger with MCI as an opportunity to point out that the "equal access" advantage it gains when in competition with AT&T in the American market has not been yielded in the UK where roles are reversed.

Other competitive operators remain more sanguine. John Beaumont, director of strategy and business development at Energis, believes neither the BT nor Cable & Wireless moves will have any effect on his company's prospects. He says both moves are a logical progression and will ultimately enhance the competitive environment in the UK.

Referring to the BT/MCI merger he says: "They must be able to make one plus one equal three or more. There are undoubtedly lots of incremental benefits and synergies flowing from the merger." Most UK telecoms managers will probably agree.

Paxman to host main conference seminars

TMA29, the 29th annual convention of the Telecommunications Managers Association, takes place in Brighton on November 25-27. The theme, Unleashing the Corporation, will address the challenge of how companies, large and small, can learn to marry business objectives with new technologies to fulfil the potential of their business.

For the industry, the TMA puts the issue starkly: "Those which harness the power generated by technology — data, voice and image — can adapt to the changing marketplace, and continue to thrive. Those which do not cannot hope to survive."

The main conference sessions will be chaired by the television broadcaster Jeremy Paxman and will examine how technologies will develop, how global markets will change and how partnerships will alter the way in which the industry conducts its business.

Speakers will include Margaret Beckett, Shadow Secretary of State for Trade & Industry, Sir Peter Bonfield, chief executive of BT, Richard Brown, chief executive of Cable & Wireless, Don Cruickshank, Director General of Oftel, Nigel Tulley, director of telecoms and media industries at IBM, and Merrill Tutton, chief executive of AT&T (UK). TMA Scotland is holding its own event in Glasgow on November 25 and 26, and several sessions of the Brighton conference will be teleconferenced from Brighton to the Scottish delegates.

- *Further information from TMA Ventures. Tel: 01372-361000. Fax 01372-818888.*

Enter the inward-looking Internet

INTRANET TECHNOLOGY

Imagine being able to send a corporate-wide memo across several countries at the touch of a button. Imagine being able drastically to reduce the cost of information technology support while transforming its ability to communicate and give staff information that they need. Intranet technology promises all of the above and more.

Perhaps best described as corporate-wide webs, intranets involve bringing together Internet and traditional office network technology. Matt Reid, intranet business development manager at Sun Microsystems, describes intranets as "deploying Internet technology inside an organisation".

The eventual aim is to enable office workers to abandon their bulky computers. Instead they will have a network computer (NC) taking its processing power and therefore its software from a server.

From their NCs, users will be able to surf the corporate highway from wherever they choose to set it up. Intranets do not have to use NCs but they are cited as being the future because they provide a cheaper and more efficient network solution. With support and maintenance, desktop computers can end up costing several times their original price. Software on an intranet is installed onto a server and only needs to be supported from that point.

However, "browsers" are the key attraction to intranets. Browser technology can run on any machine. The success of the Internet bears testament to its ease of use. Users are not restricted in what applications they can have access to, regardless of what machine they are working on. A web browser can deal with text, images, sound, video and software. All the users have to do is select what they want and download it from the server.

Mercury Communications has recently installed an intranet called QuickSilver. Jim Reynolds, head of Internet products and services, says that in its early days it is mainly a source of ad hoc information. "Employees can access information on holidays, pensions, company cars etc. In the long term it will be a useful tool to assist in general process re-engineering."

He makes the point that most corporations have the infrastructure already in place to set up their own intranets: "Most companies will have to do little more than invest in servers."

But the single most impressive thing about this technology is its ability to exist without relying on a single manufacturer for any one of its component parts. Servers, desktop units and browsers are all available from an array of sources — and they all work perfectly well together.

Glaxo Wellcome, the pharmaceutical giant, installed an intranet in 1995 to provide a cost effective way of delivering information to its research arm. One of the first things that the company put on the web was its phone book and restaurant menus. Roger James, leader of web technology and advancement at Glaxo Wellcome, says: "We were keen for people to learn about the system. People want to be able to explore and not feel threatened, and if you can find an enjoyable activity they will experiment with the system and learn at the same time."

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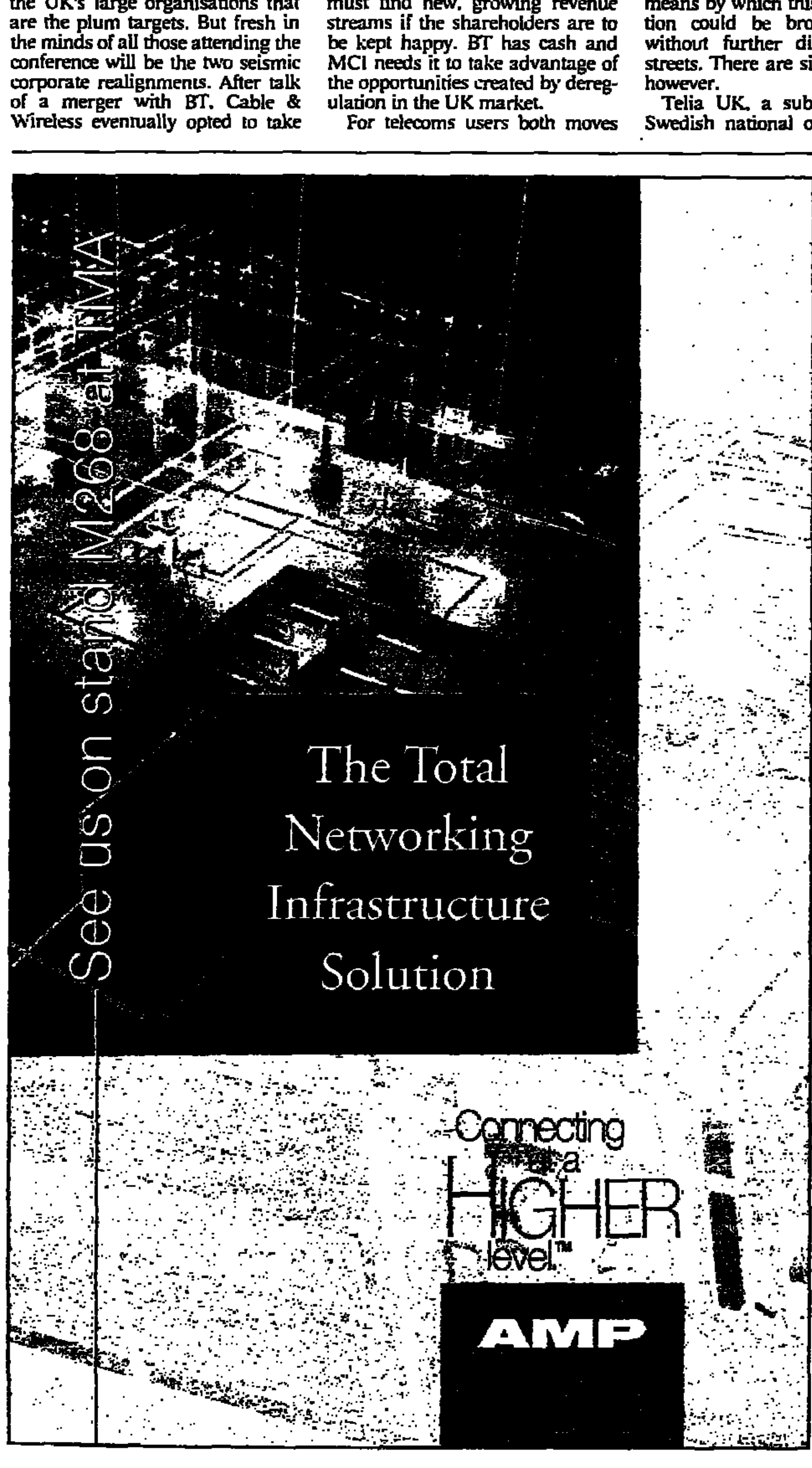
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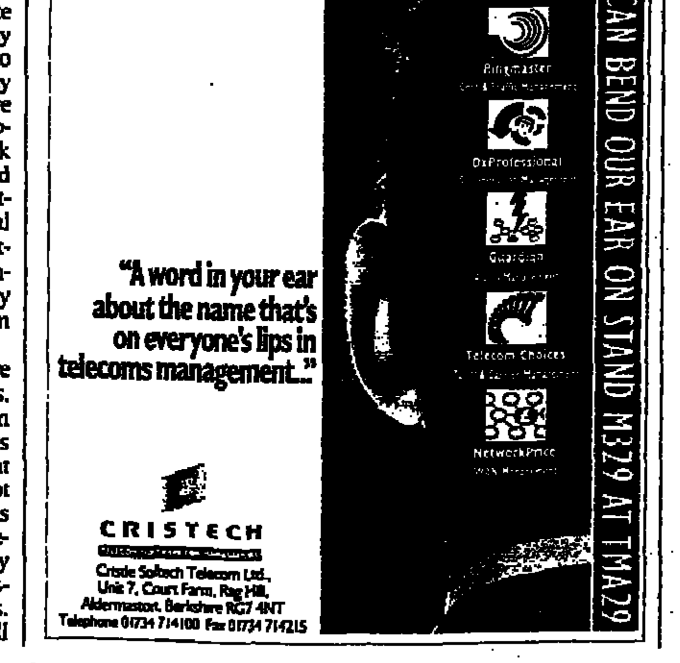

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Online race goes to the wire

Robin Arnfield on the cable combines who want to grab a big share in the digital television revolution

The race is on to provide multimedia services to homes and businesses in Britain. Cable television companies are preparing to launch high-speed Internet access in competition with BT, while bracing themselves to deliver multichannel digital TV ahead of BSkyB. Businesses are looking to the Internet to give them a competitive edge in sales and marketing as well as in internal communications.

Two large cable television companies, Nynex CableComms and TeleWest, have recently started trials of cable modems involving business and residential customers. Cable modems connect to high-capacity coaxial cable television lines, allowing access to the Internet at speeds of up to ten times faster than a modem operating through a standard copper telephone line.

Both Nynex and TeleWest expect to offer PC users access to the Internet from cable modems by the middle of next year, having postponed earlier plans to offer interactive television services such as video-on-demand. Ian Hood, a spokesman for TeleWest, says: "Interactive TV is a technology without a proven market, whereas there is an immediate demand for high-speed Internet access."

Next autumn, BSkyB — in which News International, owner of the *The Times*, has a 40 per cent stake — will launch digital services offering 150 to 200 channels of satellite television as well as interactive services such as video-on-demand, home shopping, banking and Internet access. Faced with this threat, the cable companies have begun a consolidation process which is likely to leave them with just two or three big operators by the end of next year.

Last month, three cable companies, Nynex, Bell Cablemedia and Videotron, merged with Mercury Communications, the British subsidiary of Cable & Wireless, the international telecommunications company. The newly-formed powerhouse, called Cable & Wireless Communications, will have access to six million franchise homes, compared to TeleWest's 4.2 million homes.

Because it is banned from broadcasting television to homes, BT has yet to replace its copper lines in the local loop with higher-speed optical fibre. However, there have been widespread press reports that it is planning next year to deploy ADSL (asymmetric digital subscriber line) technology nationwide.

ADSL allows digitally-compressed video signals to be transmitted over existing copper lines, enabling BT to offer fast Internet access as well as video-on-demand.

In June, BT completed a 12-month test of interactive television in East Anglia using ADSL. It says the services on offer were warmly received, with the home-shopping purchase rate similar to mail order and 75 per cent of the 5,000 people involved in the test ordering two to three videos a month.

The cable television companies are working hard to ensure that their networks are ready to switch to digital at the same time as BSkyB and any BT interactive service. Mr Hood says that even if "some of the pieces do not fit, we still won't delay the launch of digital TV". Initially, the cable companies will concentrate on providing a large number of digital television channels plus video-on-demand and pay-per-view.

The specifications that the cable companies are drawing up for their digital television set-top boxes are expected to include the capability to access the World Wide Web and a network of interconnected pages of multimedia information on the Internet. With the imminent launch of WebTVs, a television set incorporating Internet access software and hardware, and improvements in PCs' ability to handle sound and video, it is hard to determine which will become the dominant gateway to consumer multimedia services.

The Internet is already having a serious impact on British businesses, with promotional Web sites proliferating and companies in every sector investigating the possibility of online commerce. According to KPMG Management Consultants, marketing directors at British companies with turnovers of more than £200 million expect revenues from Internet-related business to reach 17 per cent of total sales by 2000.

Intranets, internal company networks based on Internet technology, are a major breakthrough. In April, a BT audit estimated that by using intranets to disseminate information throughout the organisation, executives could save 18 per cent of their time, equivalent to a day a week, or £350 million a year for a company of BT's size.

● *The author is editor of the* Financial Times newsletter *and multimedia business analyst.*

It's cheap, flexible and poised for take-off

Annie Turner reports on the advantages of group calling

The telephone has become such an intrinsic part of our lives that we tend to overlook its two primary drawbacks; we can normally only talk to one other individual at once and we cannot see the person to whom we are speaking.

Solutions to remedy the latter — video phones for the home and video conferencing for the office — attract much coverage, even though video phones so far are expensive with low quality pictures.

On the other hand, so-called teleconferencing that allows anything from three to hundreds of people to be involved in the same call tends to attract little attention beyond expensive chatline services. Yet it is cheap, flexible, could be widely available and has some big advantages over video and voice links.

Terri Veitch is director of the Community Network, a charity that sets up and administers affordable teleconferences for a diverse range of groups that want to communicate by phone.

She says the organisation has experienced a four-fold increase in conferences since 1992 to reach 230 sessions a month over the last year, with an average of eight participants. Ms Veitch says: "Ninety eight per cent of the UK population has access to a phone and telephone groups can alleviate stress, provide comfort and support by reaching out to those who need it most."

Community Network also runs international sessions. For example, it ran sessions for modern language students at the Open University who live in remote areas such as the Highlands and Islands and isolated places in northern Europe.

Until now these kinds of services have been the province of the business world, which does not mind paying a premium price, but there are indications that this is about to change. According to Frost & Sullivan, analysts, the worldwide market for teleconferencing — equipment and services — is estimated to be worth $2,000 million (£1,200 million) a year and is growing at around 30 per cent annually.

Jeff Wilson, chairman of Telsis, a company in Fareham, Hampshire, that specialises in providing teleconferencing equipment to public operators and private enterprises explains: "There will be a big shift in the way teleconferencing services are marketed and priced. Telecoms competition in the UK means the phone companies are desperate to find ways of stimulating call volumes and differentiating their services."

● Community Network can be contacted on 0171-359 4594.

VOICE PROCESSING

Press-button information

Though sometimes annoying, being answered by a voice processing system is better than no answer at all. Voice processing can save time, money and the tempers that may flare when phones are left unanswered.

Combined with clear options, including default to an operator, voice processing can relieve switchboard operators of the onerous task of responding to routine inquiries, leaving them free to offer a better service to callers who cannot be handled by the system.

"Our 150 and 151 customer service facilities are the primary contact for 25 million residential customers nationally," says Eddy Sobieralski, CTI systems manager at BT. "We live and die by the perception of our quality of service and the performance offered to customers."

With about 15 per cent of all calls to customer service centres being wrongly channelled, BT invested £1.2 million in a Syntellect interactive voice response system that handles approximately 170,000 residential sales, accounts and repair service inquiries daily.

Emergency services are using voice processing to disseminate information fast. The Lincolnshire police are using a Kingston Communications' system to beat thieves. "If we get information on crimes, suspicious people or vehicles, the computer relays a prerecorded message to 3,000 neighbourhood watch co-ordinators," says Inspector Ken Mennwell. "We use the system to protect horses, and 900 local farmers will soon join the scheme to combat arson attacks and livestock theft."

Rather than relying on the police slowly knocking on doors warning of flood danger, the Environment Agency asked Kingston Communications to install 26 separate voice processing systems around the country.

"Computers store the numbers of properties at risk in an area and, when necessary, they are called with instructions from the police. The system logs unconfirmed calls and that information is given to the emergency services," explains Brendan Paddy at the Environment Agency. "There are 4,000 addresses in England and Wales at high risk from flooding, but we can now extend warnings to 14,000 properties."

The thousands of flight information inquiries to Newcastle Airport are now processed by software connecting callers to a live and continually updated database. "Following voice prompts, callers can use flight numbers or arrival/departure times to get accurate information. The system is being expanded to include weather reports and parking tariffs," says Deb Tate, Kingston Communications' marketing manager.

Up to 2,500 calls are phoned in daily to the College of North East London during student enrolment. In the past they were handled by two operators and 11 incoming lines. Frustrated, prospective students hung up when calls were unanswered. The solution was an eight-line C3 Telilink system which answers all incoming calls to the main college number. "Overall it has reduced the amount of repetitive calls we answer, so we can handle other callers more efficiently," says Ansuya Rathod, admissions officer.

Iceland, the frozen food retailer, has integrated its telephony and computer resources to create a PC-based voice processing system. Pre-recorded messages are phoned through to individual stores telling them that order information has not been received. Before the C3 system, staff dialled each branch manually.

Voice processing is used in as many ways as there are organisations, and technology is adding new functions and flexibility. "Integrated into the computer environment these systems are eliminating barriers between text, speech and fax. Before long voice messages will be automatically converted to text, but now they are stored on servers — eliminating transcription costs and improving message accuracy," explains Marty Parker, director of strategy, messaging products, Lucent Technologies.

"We are entering a world of multimedia messaging accessed by multiple devices. Lotus Notes will be used from a phone and voice or text messages will be sent from any device to anyone anywhere in the world."

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PAYPHONES

A call and a drink is on the cards

Plain old payphones are moving beyond voice services. Smartcard technology is showing the way. Even the humble Phonecard, which contains pre-paid units for calls, could soon be used to buy small items.

The latest BT Phonecards contain a computer chip. This means they can store a variety of information and can be read by smartcard readers. BT says that in future it will be possible to use Phonecards not just in payphones, but also to pay for items like drinks from vending machines.

Christine Walter, customer marketing manager for BT payphones, says: "Phonecards have a role as a stepping-stone towards 'electronic purse' cards. They will help get consumers used to the idea of paying for goods with a pre-paid 'cash' card."

Telecommunications companies like BT hope electronic cash will catch on because it would increase telephone usage, as money is transferred onto the cards over the phone. BT is working with Mondex (an electronic purse standard developed by National Westminster Bank, Midland Bank and BT) and is also watching developments with other electronic purse cards.

In trials in Swindon, and Exeter and York universities, specially equipped payphones can load money — over the phone — onto a Mondex smart card. The cards can be used to pay for parking, items in local newsagents and phone calls.

The very latest BT payphones — called Touchpoint — have touch-sensitive screens which allow consumers to book holidays, check out local services and so on.

Another innovation in payphones makes it possible for deaf people to make calls. At airports and major stations, text payphones with keyboards to type messages can be used — either to communicate with another text payphone — or to relay a message via an operator. The spoken reply is then typed by the operator, so the deaf caller can read it.

JOIA SHILLINGFORD

Competition has cut the cost of mobiles, says **Joia Shillingford**, but there is a cheaper answer

Don't ring, page me, please

Orange, the cellular network operator, caused quite a stir when it introduced per-second billing in the UK. But have mobile phone calls really got much cheaper? Orange offered a simple pricing package, with a certain amount of free usage thrown in and per-second billing. Customers loved it. Not surprisingly, Vodafone and Cellnet fought back.

Both companies introduced per-second billing in at least some of their price packages. The outcome was that mobile prices have come down a bit, although calls from mobiles still cost far more than calls from a fixed phone.

Vodafone and Cellnet have both come out with bundled price packages that include a certain number of free minutes (in Vodafone's case) or a certain amount of waived costs (in Cellnet's). They also provide per-second billing, though not in every tariff. According to the newsletter *Mobile Communications*, Vodafone, Cellnet, One-2-One and Orange have average monthly revenues per customer of £39, £35, £35 and £37 respectively.

In addition, "There are now more options for low-usage customers," says Keith Joseph, a senior consultant at researchers Ovum. These are packages designed for people who only need a mobile occasionally, such as when their car breaks down. They have a low-monthly fee, but higher call costs.

Recently, Vodafone introduced a new kind of low-usage package: a pre-paid card. These cards can be bought at Post Offices and Vodafone has sold around 4,000 of them. For users, pre-paid cards mean they can control their spending. For Vodafone, the cards mean that it can take on customers with low credit-ratings without risk.

However, call charges are not the only issue in the mobile market. Two factors distort the market: handset prices and features. Mobile phones can cost around £200 to make, but prices are often subsidised. So a basic phone can be had for £10-£50 and a very good phone for £75-£100. Low handset prices are usually tied in to an airtime package. In the long term, the real cost to the user will be the cost of calls and monthly charges.

Only Vodafone and Cellnet offer mobile services that conform to the Global System for Mobile (GSM) digital standard, that can be used in most leading European cities. Value-added features include Vodafone's Telenot Fax — the ability to send 160-character faxes from some handsets via a paging-like short-message service.

Hutchison-owned Orange has a group caller tariff that saves a small business from needing a receptionist. Instead, incoming calls are routed in rotation between a group of mobile workers, such as architects or engineers.

Mobile prices have come down by little more than 10 per cent in the latest round of price cuts. One mobile solution, which is more affordable is paging. Pagers are enjoying a revival, particularly after the introduction of "caller pays paging" (CPP).

Under caller pays paging, the user pays a one-off charge to buy the pager. But callers must pay a premium to contact it. Calls to a CPP pager usually work out at 25 pence a call or 35 pence a call, depending on the pager. Mr Joseph says: "Paging has done well in countries such as the United States where you have to pay to receive cellular calls. You can avoid heavy charges by carrying a pager and only using your mobile to reply to people you want to speak to urgently."

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Second Industrial Revolution is the tip of the iceberg

> ❛ Two optical fibres could carry 35m phone calls ❜

It is a cliché that we're now in a second Industrial Revolution based on communications. New industries are emerging based on information — on pictures, words and moving images and on the billions of bits of data that make up our increasingly electronic economies.

The first Industrial Revolution, though, was for all to see and, as steam and steel crawled across our landscapes, the change was evident. The impact of the communications revolution has been far more subtle, hidden behind jargon and clumsy acronyms. Or at least it was, until recently . . .

Al Gore, American Vice-President, was probably the first to bring the public's attention to what was happening. In 1992, he used the term "information superhighway" to describe the growing web of networks, computers, databases and consumer electronics that would underpin the economy to 2,000 and beyond.

Next, driven by falling PC costs and ever more powerful software applications, came the Internet explosion. Add in the break-up of the old telecoms monopolies around the world, bringing choice to customers, with the United Kingdom very much in the vanguard, and the first parts of the technological iceberg had begun to emerge from below the surface into everyday life.

The information superhighway idea has captured the imagination of the business world as a new frontier that can be owned, marketed and sold. It's also captured the imagination of a public ever hungry for new stimulation and entertainment. But what's behind all the hype from the digital gurus and messiahs?

The physical capacity of any communication medium — copper cable, radio waves or laser light — to carry information is defined as its bandwidth. Many of us are now familiar with modems where data from our computers can be sent and received at so many thousand bits per second (kilobit/s). That speed is ultimately limited by the bandwidth, of the copper telephone line that we use.

The higher the frequency of the signal that can be sent over these media, the greater the amount of information that can be transmitted in a set time. This is why we use high frequency radio to send television pictures and lower frequencies to send just speech and music.

Our urge to communicate ever greater amounts of information even faster led to experiments in the 1950s that transmitted microwaves down pipes. If it hadn't been for advances in fibre optics, we would now probably have retrained plumbers working as Local Area Network installers.

Fortunately, by the end of that decade and the start of the 1960s, the first lasers were appearing, offering even higher frequencies than radio waves. At the same time, fibre optics had been developed for remote inspection in surgery and engineering.

In 1966, two researchers working at Nortel's Advanced Technology Centre, then known as STL, in Harlow, wrote a scientific paper theorising that lasers could send data over optical fibres. Three years later, the company had demonstrated the transmission of 100,000,000 light pulses per second (a rate of 100 megabit/s — standard speed over many office Local Area Networks now) over a single fibre.

From this, the technology has progressed in leaps and bounds, mirroring the growth in memory and speed that we have seen with the PC. With techniques and rare elements worthy of a medieval alchemist, silicon is being transformed into products that make our traditional copper-based networks look as wasteful of energy and raw materials as early steam engines.

The world's first true fibre optic communications link was installed by BT between Hitchin and Stevenage in 1977. Now, on land and under the oceans, optical fibres are carrying massive amounts of data. The latest standard for communications links is set at ten gigabits per second (a gigabit is one thousand million bits) and industry research is under way to raise these speeds to 1,000 gigabits per second and beyond. America's current peak telephone traffic — over 35 million voice calls — could one day be carried on just two optical fibres.

With the superhighway travelling at such speeds, getting information on and off it in the right place and at the right time has demanded new solutions from the network engineers. The old copper networks, having grown organically over time, used a technique called PDH (Plesiochronous Digital Hierarchy) to interweave, pick up and drop off all the data travelling over the network. Clumsy and inefficient in hindsight and requiring a large workforce of engineers to maintain and control them, PDH systems are now being replaced by SDH (Synchronous Digital Hierarchy) networks.

Synchronised by a central time signal from an atomic clock, computer data and digitised speech and video flow around the fibre optic rings that now surround our cities, travelling in and out to business and domestic users. When a new circuit is needed, an operator many miles away can configure it using a few computer keystrokes.

When the inevitable JCB strikes a cable, the network automatically reconfigures itself without the subscribers being aware of any interference. For the operator, this means higher reliability and a smaller workforce. For the communications user, it means fewer faults and, eventually, lower costs.

ALUN LEWIS

هكذا من الاصل

مكنا من الاجل

Job prospects in the telecoms industry are a mixed bag with some skills in demand and others declining fast. **Tony Dawe** reports

Drive carefully on the career superhighway

EMPLOYMENT

The prospects for a career in the telecommunications industry might appear brighter than ever today with new research forecasting that jobs in this market will grow by 13 per cent in the next five years.

Underlining the message, BT will launch a new site on the Internet this week to help the company to recruit graduates. It is looking for 750 in the next year and promises a £16,000 starting salary, Inner London weighting, many benefits and a personal development plan to help recruits to reach top posts.

For those already established in the industry, headhunters are offering ever more attractive packages. Peter Lloyd of PA Consulting, one of the country's leading consultancy firms, says: "Information technology accounts for a third of our business. Companies recognise that they cannot survive without *information technology* and telecommunications and that it plays a vital part in their development."

But the good news must be tempered with what is happening in the industry. While jobs in some areas are booming, work in others is *disappearing*. Some companies are struggling to find people with suitable technical skills, others are laying off staff in large numbers. BP, for example, is recruiting graduates, but it is letting go 5,000 other employees this year, especially engineers, operators and clerical workers.

Telecommunication staff in leading companies, such as banks and retail firms, are also falling victim to the trend of outsourcing. A few *years ago*, all *the* big *companies* had their own large information technology departments, but they have now been downsized — reduced in terms of the type of equipment and number of staff employed — and replaced by contractors.

"Jobs for life are no longer guaranteed," says David Harrington, managing director of the Telecommunications Managers Association (TMA). "With the *convergence of new technologies, companies* are looking to save money by cutting jobs. In-house training schemes are *among the first* to go. The bottom line for people in the industry is self-managed careers."

Mr Lloyd agrees: "The challenge for staff in this field is that they must be capable of taking on new responsibilities if the roles they have been fulfilling are overtaken."

But where should people looking for a career in the industry start? According to the current edition of the *Penguin Careers Guide*, most professionals in this field now work *with users or consultants* installing, programming, analysing and designing systems; controlling, managing, setting up project teams and specialist departments; liaising with other staff and training existing staff to use systems.

The guide forecasts that "systems programmers, systems analysts and designers and well-qualified applications programmers are all likely to be in demand for the rest of this century, but the need for *operators and less skilled programmers* is dwindling fast as these tasks are increasingly performed by *non-specialist staff*".

As BT is forced to fight increasingly hard to maintain a dominant position *in the industry, the* company will have particular need for innovative software engineers and marketing staff. Its new Web page also indicates that it is looking for graduates who can take on financial, personal and business management.

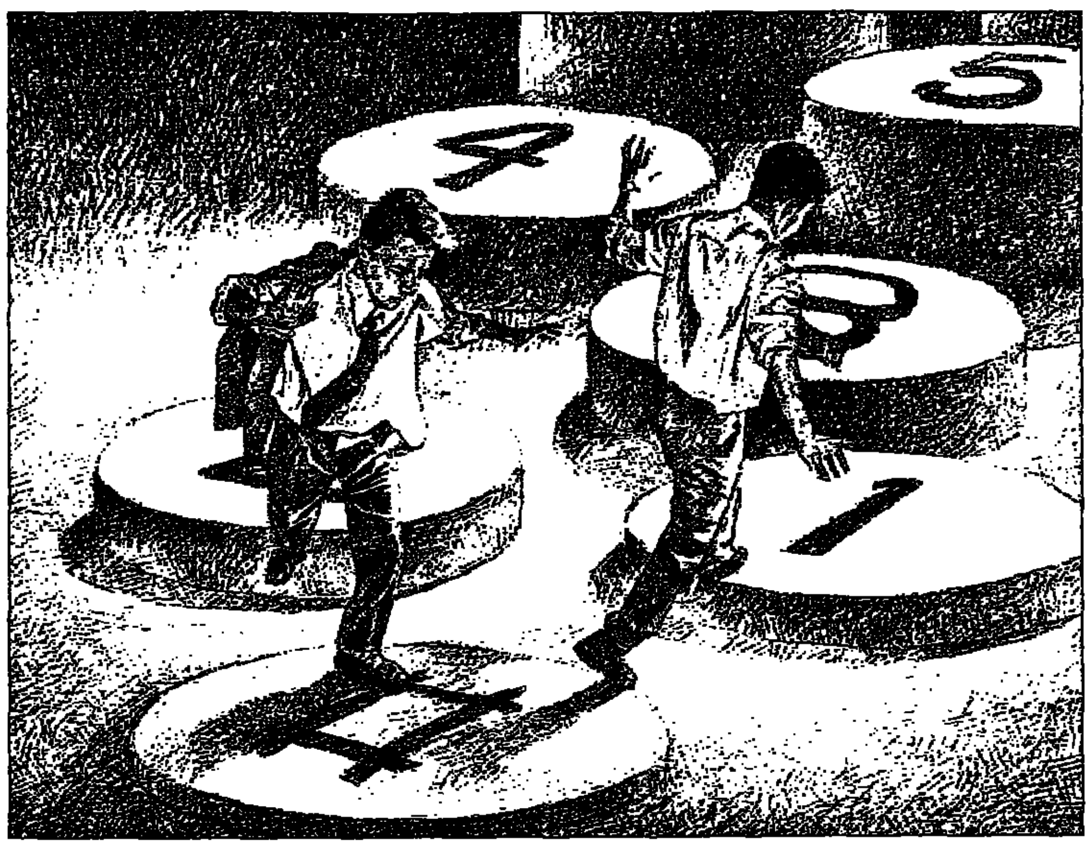
The problem facing communications technology manufacturers and users is a huge skills shortage not seen for a decade. The wide potential of new technologies and *constant customer drive for cost* efficiency and business benefits creates a worrying scenario of high demand and low supply in the specialist skills arena.

Communications specialists have an ever increasing need to fully understand the areas in which they operate and how these sectors will develop in the future. To tackle these issues, TMA Ventures, *the business arm of the* TMA, has joined forces with NEXUS Information Technology to launch a communications skills fair to be held in London next February.

"It will address all of these issues and help people in the industry to *understand the skills they need to* succeed in a world of changing technology," says Terry Chellew, TMA Ventures managing director.

The TMA is also playing its part in helping members combat constant change on a regular basis and has appointed its first educational *services manager*, David Cogan, who takes up his duties this week.

His task is to implement a continuing professional development programme. Courses will run for up to five years with regular assessments and targets and people will come out with a degree or *national* vocational qualification at a high level.



Technological Silk Roads of the 20th century

NETWORKS

Telecoms used to be the poor relation of the information technology sector, compared to the entrepreneurial, aggressive world of computers. The telecoms manager was an often unappreciated chap, inhabiting a world of switchboards, extensions and wires that was distinctly low-tech compared to the acolytes of the *air-conditioned computer rooms.*

The growth of networking has changed this. Information and knowledge are recognised as replacing capital, raw materials and energy as *wealth creating assets.* Managing the flow of information around a company — making sure that it reaches the right people at the right time — is now of vital strategic importance. The TMA conference *has become* filled with power-dressed executives, arguing about the savings to be made in moving the data entry department to Sri Lanka. The virtual company starts here.

Communications — once a comparatively straightforward business — has become incredibly complex in just a few years. By its very nature it is largely invisible and amorphous. It is also truly international in scope. The networking industry draws together many previously separate groups, each with their own world view, each with their own agenda, each with their own preconceptions.

We have the telecom and network operators and owners and their equipment suppliers: we have the consumer electronics industry: we *have broadcasters,* information and entertainment providers: the software and hardware IT sector; and, inevitably, the lawyers and politicians. Further out on the fringes, we also have the hackers, the copyright pirates, cyberpunks and cypherpunks.

As this information society reaches into every corner of the world, social, economic, political and personal environments change too. Speed of communications, while a benefit for some, is a deeply destabilising force for others. Global communications enable international corporations to be responsible to no-one — the emerging rootless, virtual company — that oursources everything and is primarily composed of knowledge workers, operating across different time zones.

Alternatively, *public* access to sophisticated communications creates an opportunity for consumer, environmental and political groups *to* network together, presenting a united front across many countries, exchanging information and *co-ordinating* protest.

If the old Silk Roads began by carrying both spices and syphilis to the West, what new possibilities and perils are starting to circulate in *the* network of networks?

With the new technologies available to us, the traditional commercial hierarchy breaks down into a far more fluid, *faster moving* system. This process, under current conditions, is unstoppable and, as international commercial pressures and the globalisations of markets increases, it can only accelerate.

But what will replace it? Traditional industries were like dinosaurs — slow-moving, with brains remote from tails and limbs. The development of the information and knowledge-based economy *creates a nervous system for a new order*, based on advanced computer and communications techniques, giving small, flexible work groups a power *and potential autonomy that* reflects the evolution of our *early mammalian ancestors.* Speed, agility and high-order information processing, achievable through technologies such as ATM, SDHG, and mobile communications, will be the criteria for success over the coming decades. The fastest predator will win.

But, if we are to extend our electronic boundaries, how will we deal with the challenge this places on our own identities? Balancing the global trend to integration and federalism, we can also see around us a growing culture of tribalism and separatism that, ironically, is also starting *to use information technology* to spread its message. Fundamentalist groups of all persuasions, extreme political organisations, organised crime — all these have entry to *the* networks as well as access to advanced cryptographic *techniques that* will keep their information secret.

A nuclear explosion *could wipe* microchips

Another immense potential danger also faces us. As we become more and more dependent on our networks, so our vulnerability to any disruption in service also increases. Much is made of the threat of terrorists getting their hands on nuclear weapons. Physical destruction *though has become unnecessary.* The mere act of detonating a nuclear device miles up in the atmosphere would set off an electromagnetic pulse that would wipe every microchip in a city below. Like an advanced aircraft, the "fly-by-wire" economy is inherently unstable.

Can we make sense of the changes ahead of us? Will we *become* more confused, more isolated or will the power of communications create new communities, new ways of living and working? As the world grows increasingly crowded, short of resources and polluted, it is likely that many organisations will use the power of networks to keep or increase control. It may also be likely that many will retreat behind their screens, minimising contact with an external world grown more threatening and unstable.

We have come a long way since those first fateful words of Alexander Graham Bell, "Watson, come here". The next few steps our industry takes will affect the whole world.

ALUN LEWIS

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PUBLICIS ETOILE

Three goals from Coyne fire Baum's Bullets

IN ASSOCIATION WITH

A BRACE of Scottish-based players has propelled a Bury resident to the weekly £250 prize in *The Times* Interactive Team Football game. Mr R. Baum, with his team Baum's Bullets, scored an impressive 48 points, assisted in no small measure by the performances of Gilles Rousset, the Heart of Midlothian goalkeeper, who did not concede a goal in two games, and Tommy Coyne, who scored a hat-trick for Motherwell on Saturday.

In the overall race for £50,000, John Hunt, from Taunton, remains the leader with 265 points. Mr Hunt continues to juggle the demands of his multifarious teams and still keep four of them in the top ten. The D Team leads, with the H Team only seven points behind. What, one might ask, has happened to the A Team?

Mr Baum's team is:

Goalkeeper
G Rousset (Hearts)

Full backs
J Dicks (West Ham)
C Wilson (Tottenham)

Central defenders
D May (Manchester Utd)
N Ruddock (Liverpool)

Midfield players
D Beckham (Manchester Utd)
P Grant (Celtic)
B Laudrup (Rangers)
C Robertson (Dunfermline)

Strikers
T Coyne (Motherwell)
C Sutton (Blackburn)

Manager
R Aitken (Aberdeen)

Ruddock's goal for Liverpool against Leeds United makes him one of the most valuable defenders of the week

If your team could be doing better, with your players lacking form and fitness, you can move into the transfer market to improve your fortunes. You can use the ITF transfer system which allows you to change up to two players each week and to adjust your team if one of your players is actually transferred out of the FA Carling Premiership or Bell's Scottish League premier division.

You can make transfers only by telephone. Using a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone), call the **0891 866 968** line during the times given. From outside the United Kingdom, you must call **0044 990 200 668.**

When making a transfer, you must ensure that the team does not contain more than two individuals (two players or one player and a manager) from the same club.

If you are lagging behind the leading team selectors, the transfer system will be an appealing option to you in the chase for the prizes — the overall £50,000, monthly £1,000 or weekly £250.

☐ ***All Interactive Team Football transfer queries should be directed to 0171-757 7016. All other inquiries can be made on 01582 488 122.***

THIS WEEK'S TRANSFERS

There are no transfers in ITF this week

LOANED PLAYERS

D Wassall (Derby to Manchester City, four weeks); B Angell (Sunderland to Stockport, one week); T Wright (Nottingham Forest to Reading, two weeks); R van der Laan (Derby to Wolverhampton, four weeks); F Bennett (Southampton to Shrewsbury, one week); C Blackmore (Middlesbrough to Bristol City, two weeks); S Davies (Manchester United to Huddersfield, two weeks); M Jackson (Everton to Birmingham, two weeks); J Kavanagh (Derby to Wycombe, two weeks); J Cundy (Tottenham to Ipswich, three weeks); R Ferdinand (West Ham to Bournemouth, three weeks); J Sheridan (Sheffield Wednesday to Bolton, four weeks)

Loan periods subject to fluctuation

HOW THE SCORING SYSTEM WORKS IN ITF

All 1996-7 matches in the FA Carling Premiership, FA Cup, Bell's Scottish League premier division and Tennents Scottish Cup from August 17 count for points. Penalty shootouts do not count but results decided in this way will count for managers.

POINTS SCORED

Goalkeeper		**Striker**	
Keeps clean sheet*	4pts	Scores goal	2pts
Scores goal	3pts	**All players**	
Saves penalty	1pt	Appearance†	1pt
Full back/Central defender		Scores hat-trick	6pts
Keeps clean sheet*	3pts	**Manager**	
Scores goal	3pts	Team wins	3pts
Midfield player		Team draws	1pt
Keeps clean sheet*	1pt		
Scores goal	2pts		

POINTS DEDUCTED

Goalkeeper		Booked	1pt
Concedes goal	2pts	Concedes penalty	1pt
Full back/Central defender		Misses penalty	1pt
Concedes goal	1pt	Scores own goal	1pt
All players		**Manager**	
Sent off	3pts	Team loses	1pt

* must have played for 75 minutes in the match
† must have played for 45 minutes in the match

EXCLUSIVE ITF COMPETITION THE TIMES

12 pairs of Premier League tickets to be won plus lunch at Football Football

The Times Interactive Team Football and the fashionable London restaurant for sporting fans, Football Football, are offering a fabulous prize exclusive to entrants of our highly successful ITF.

You have the chance to win a buffet lunch and Christmas drink for two at Football Football plus two tickets to see Tottenham play Sheffield Wednesday. The match at White Hart Lane is on Saturday, December 21. Pairs of tickets are worth £40. We have 12 prizes to be won by ITF entrants.

Football Football, situated in the heart of London's West End, is a uniquely themed family restaurant, decorated with fascinating football memorabilia, state-of-the-art special effects and coverage from magic moments past and present on giant video screens.

The lively restaurant where you eat in a fun and informal atmosphere, is endorsed by the PFA and FIFA. Opened just nine months ago, Football Football has established itself as one of the in places to visit in the capital.

The Beautiful Game

For information about Football Football call 0171-930 9970.

HOW TO ENTER

To enter (only players of *The Times* ITF game) send your name, your ITF team name, ITF pin number and the answer to the question below, on a postcard or the back of a sealed envelope to: *The Times*/ Football Football Comp, 30 Bouverie St, London EC88 4NG. Closing date: Friday, November 29, 1996. Winners will be drawn at random.

Against which country did England play their first match in Euro 96?

CHANGING TIMES

HOW TO MAKE A TRANSFER IN ITF

Call 0891 866 968

If telephoning from outside the United Kingdom call 44 990 200 668.

You may make transfers only by telephone using a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone). You will need your ten-digit selectors PIN, which you will have to tap in, not speak. Follow the simple instructions and tap in the five-digit codes of the players you are transferring.

You may only make transfers in one team per telephone call. If you have entered two teams and want to make transfers in both, you must make two separate calls.

You may transfer two (but no more than two) individuals (two players or one player and a manager) during a transfer week. A player being transferred out must be replaced by one from the same category and you must keep to the team format of a goalkeeper, two full backs, two central defenders, four midfield players, two strikers and a manager. You must not exceed the £35 million budget and have no more than two individuals from the same club. Incorrect transfers will be rejected and your team will remain in its previous form.

The transfer week runs from 00.01 on Tuesday to midnight the following Monday. Transfers made before noon each day will become effective immediately. Transfers made after noon will become effective for matches played after noon on the following day.

Your new player only starts to score points for you when his transfer is registered. The current score of the player transferred out remains part of your team score but he then ceases to score for you.

If a player or manager moves teams during the season, it may affect the composition of your team. You must adjust your team by using the transfer system to avoid missing out on points.

Calls will be charged at 45p per minute cheap rate, 50p per minute at other times. Calls made from public telephones may cost approximately twice as much.

Player out
Club ☐☐☐☐☐
Player in ______
Club ______ ☐☐☐☐☐

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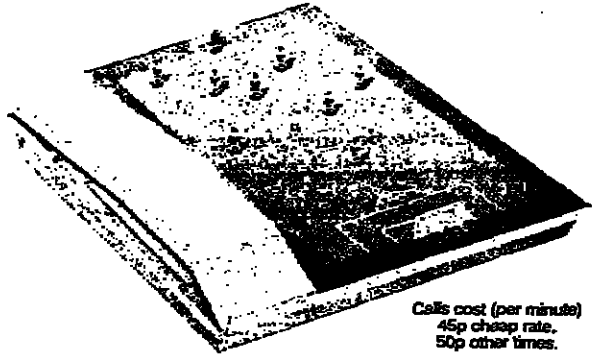


Calls cost (per minute) 45p cheap rate, 50p other times.

Call the ITF checkline on
0891 884 643
Outside UK: 44 990 100 343

Check your points total and your ranking. You need a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone) and your ten-digit selector's PIN. Calls made from public telephones may cost approximately twice as much.

Pos	Team	(Player's name)	Pts
1	John Hunt Taunton D	(J Hunt)	265
2	John Hunt Taunton H	(J Hunt)	258
3	Skyforest	(A Burton)	255
4	John Hunt Taunton F	(J Hunt)	253
5	Sophie And Sam	(G Foster)	252
6	Jones Boys Three	(M Jones)	248
7	John Hunt Taunton E	(J Hunt)	246
8=	Scholes For Goals	(K Booth)	243
8=	Gangsters	(A Lone)	243
10=	Riggy's Roarers	(A Rigg)	239
10=	A2	(K Farhall)	239
12	Storm	(P Mills)	238
13	Mean Machine	(P Ford)	237
14	Purple Rain	(B Gohil)	236
15=	Orvieto Classico	(J Bradshaw)	235
15=	NST Monkstone	(J Staszkiewicz)	235
15=	Nobby 33	(J Brown)	235
18	Raj Is Back To Kill	(R Gohil)	234
19=	Jones Boys 8	(M Jones)	232
19=	PJ Thistle	(R Newbould)	232
21=	Raj Is Back To Kill	(R Gohil)	231
21=	I	(M Corless)	231
21=	Hull Red Devils	(G Foster)	231
24	Dour Rangers 3	(I Clayton)	230
25	Tulip's Tops	(D Tulip)	228
26=	Noah's Ark	(G P Dolan)	227
26=	Daggers	(V Cox)	227
26=	John Hunt Taunton C	(J Hunt)	227
29=	Polly's Pride	(P Smiley)	226
29=	Aldecurcic Villa	(M Jukes)	226
29=	Le Boeufeaters	(J Roebuck)	226
32=	Brain's Team	(B Howes)	225
32=	Plastic Fitters 10	(T Feehily)	225
32=	Roisins Raiders	(P M Handley)	225
32=	God's Airounders 2	(S A Godfrey)	225
32=	John Hunt Taunton G	(J Hunt)	225
32=	The Dansters	(C C Vevers)	225
38	Beeston Celtic	(B Mcgivern)	224
39	JS August Monthly 1	(J Swirles)	223
40=	Redknapp's Rovers	(B Emson)	222
40=	Nobby 4	(J Brown)	222
42=	Arif's Allstars	(A Bangi)	221
42=	Nobby 20	(J Brown)	221
44=	Nomads	(N Broom)	220
44=	Set Against Cys	(S Shipley)	220
44=	Team C	(A Lone)	220
44=	Clover Vale	(N Ensingh)	220
44=	Bumbles XI	(S Jones)	220
49=	Inter The Stand	(M Ward)	219
49=	JS August Monthly 2	(J Swirles)	219
49=	AC Fantasy FC	(M Skippen)	219
49=	Jane's Giants	(J Longton)	219
49=	Bubwith Utd 3	(M Larcombe)	219
49=	Abdul's Revenge	(D Ritchie)	219
49=	AB 4	(A Boyland)	219
56=	Insomniacs	(L A Tomlinson)	218
56=	Raj Is Back To Kill	(R Gohil)	218
56=	Toto Calcio	(A Daye)	218
56=	Lesley's Legmen	(L Michaelis)	218
56=	Nobby 5	(J Brown)	218
61=	CJ United	(P Sutton)	217
61=	ST Utd	(M O'Brien)	217
61=	Flying Foreigners	(D Thomas)	217
64=	G Money FC	(G Samuels)	216
64=	Layton's Lions 7	(R Layton)	216
64=	1970 Jr FC	(J Ross)	216
64=	Sky Times III	(L McCullough)	216
64=	Dynamo Hibs	(S Miller)	216
64=	Nobby	(J Brown)	216
70=	Athletico Storm	(P Mills)	215
70=	Pin Ups Two	(P Tusler)	215
70=	It's About Revenge C	(R Gohil)	215
70=	Porcelain Gods	(P Ryan)	215
70=	Bad Time Boys	(R Crock)	215
70=	Pamela Anderson	(P Hands)	215
70=	Raj Is Back To Kill	(J Gohil)	215
70=	Animals	(L Clark)	215
70=	Sky Rockets	(K Farhall)	215
70=	Kingsbury Tn 1	(D F King)	215
80=	Ace's High	(N Avery)	214
80=	Hove Rovers 3	(N Goddard)	214
80=	The Miracles	(D Booth)	214
80=	Over The Moon FC	(I Roscall)	214
80=	Mark's Magicians II	(M Kingston)	214
80=	Expensive Failures	(S Harper)	214
80=	A	(M Corless)	214
80=	Airstir	(I Fyfe)	214
88=	Inter The Pub	(M Ward)	213
88=	Ravioli On Toast	(N Bowles)	213
88=	Over The Moon FC	(I Roskell)	213
88=	Centinal Athletic	(N Skipper)	213
88=	Bubwith Utd 5	(M Larcombe)	213
88=	Johnny's Giants	(J Jones)	213
88=	Le Boeuf And 2 Veg	(M Sawley)	213
88=	Turner's Earners 3	(P Turner)	213
96=	Beyond Fault	(P Foster)	212
96=	PJB Rovers	(P J Butler)	212
96=	Cholm Chix 69	(C Scarlet)	212
96=	Jen 2	(J Clayton)	212
96=	T 35	(T Basaran)	212
96=	4 4 2	(K Browne)	212
96=	Claremont Loyal	(B Fox)	212
96=	Cannon's Hotshots	(D Cannon)	212
96=	Arrogant FC	(F K Taylor)	212
96=	Brainbows United	(G Weiss)	212
96=	Lynne's Lions	(L Hiorns)	212
96=	Pacific All Star	(T Leonard)	212
96=	Kinky Imports	(S Fraser)	212
96=	Xpat Missiles	(M Jackson)	212
96=	Bob's Boys 2	(R Calder)	212
96=	E	(M Corless)	212
112=	Fortuna Sandwich	(A J Finkel)	211
112=	Triple Top Tan	(P Bailey)	211
112=	The Red Devils	(K Booth)	211
112=	Kanfer's Cronies	(E D Kanfer)	211
112=	The Passion	(W E Parker)	211
112=	—	(no name)	211
112=	Raj Is Back To Kill	(R Gohil)	211
112=	Erevenge On Judus F	(N Hir)	211
112=	Barry's Team	(B Matthews)	211
112=	Nobby 11	(J Brown)	211
122=	TWFC 1	(T Webley)	210
122=	The Luke Hansard XI	(M Kelley)	210
122=	Former Champions	(A Murhabin)	210
122=	Hopeful Hotshots	(H Rimmer)	210
122=	Soccer Superstars	(J McGallion)	210
122=	FC Big Hands	(A Martin)	210
122=	Hari Kari XI	(H Kerr)	210
122=	The Tomsters	(C C Vevers)	210
130=	No Midfield	(J B Portwood)	209
130=	FC Pants	(J Mullock)	209
130=	PT's Top Team	(T Tidmarsh)	209
130=	Jack's Nightmare	(N J Lane)	209
130=	Blue Brazil	(D Nicholls)	209
130=	Glens Win World Cup	(F Geary)	209
130=	Priory Rangers	(J Palmer)	209
130=	Thom Foolery FC	(M Horan)	209
130=	Red Star Belgravia	(R Keenan)	209
130=	Yahboysir	(G Davidson)	209
130=	Concrete Banana	(S Mingle)	209
130=	United In Footy	(O Alton)	209
130=	Jones Boys Sky	(M Jones)	209
130=	Def Con 3	(M Peck)	209
130=	1st Eleft	(K J Burns)	209
130=	Nobby 7	(J Brown)	209
146=	Eric's Allsorts	(E Routledge)	208
146=	Bugalugs	(S Birchfield)	208
146=	Jones Boys One	(M L Jones)	208
146=	Alice	(I Pigeon)	208
146=	Team A	(A Lone)	208
146=	Cavaliers	(J H Morrison)	208
146=	Fendon United	(E Cowen)	208
146=	Rod's Rovers	(B Roddam)	208
146=	Smashing	(K Mason)	208
146=	Three Tabletoppers	(M A Kennedy)	208
146=	12 Angry Men	(D Cook)	208
146=	Legs Eleven	(P Broomhead)	208
146=	Mac's Monkeys	(M Mcbride)	208
146=	Abc	(M Baber)	208
146=	Pants City	(no name)	208
161=	Albian Harries XI	(A Hynes)	207
161=	The Right Stuff	(M Leak)	207
161=	Northwood XI	(S Mulleney)	207
161=	Nonchalont AFC 3	(R J Ward)	207
161=	Glen Duffers	(S Wilson)	207
161=	Shrew Moles	(H Brasher)	207
161=	West Brom The Best	(C Jones)	207
161=	Scottish Pride	(N Ong-Seng)	207
161=	Ziggy's Boys	(Z Ahmed)	207
161=	Oct95-ITF Champ!	(M Sladden)	207
161=	MIF Sports	(M Wilson)	207
161=	Bow Utd	(K J Burns)	207
161=	Wiwic3	(G Atkinson)	207
174=	Satica Super Stars	(J Seaman)	206
174=	Inter The Wallet	(M Ward)	206
174=	D & A Warriors	(A Summers)	206
174=	Alencia FC	(A Stilliano)	206
174=	Real Ale Ripon	(C Blackshaw)	206
174=	RKV 2	(C Vanezis)	206
174=	Ball Watchers	(J Murray)	206
174=	Zig Zag Zak 25	(J Zak)	206
174=	Claret And Blue FC	(C Smith)	206
174=	Dunard	(A Bourne)	206
174=	Sarsaparilla	(G Bowe)	206
174=	Aldo Is Great	(J Holliday)	206
174=	Gestalt	(R Rowe)	206
174=	Obby 22	(J Brown)	206
174=	Nobby 34	(J Brown)	206
189=	Pear-Shaped FC	(R M Sands)	205
189=	VFM Overseas	(M A Wilson)	205
189=	DJS 2	(D Senton)	205
189=	AC Cambridge	(L Hoe)	205
189=	Murray's Mates	(D Anderson)	205
189=	HDG Is Out Of Order	(N Wheatley)	205
189=	Bown's Boys XI	(P Bown)	205
189=	Trouble Shooters	(R Pritt)	205
189=	Gauntlet FC	(C J Eldred)	205
189=	Jenny's Skates	(D S Millis)	205
189=	Ginger	(T P Leah)	205
189=	Weaver Wonders	(J Kennedy)	205
189=	Oytrage I	(G O Emoghene)	205
189=	Lucy's Lions	(S Doggett)	205
189=	Sporty Big Bone	(J Staszkiewicz)	205
189=	Where's Ray Gone?	(P Fromm)	205
189=	Tur	(P Turner)	205
189=	Mars FC	(M Baber)	205
189=	Sharp Shooters	(D Shipp)	205
208=	China Castle	(B Gohil)	204
208=	Cantemar Fan Club	(C Stanoen)	204
208=	Juve Rejects	(M Carroll)	204
208=	Chris' Cruiser Gang	(C Godden)	204
208=	T 20	(T Basaran)	204
208=	Icarus	(B Wells)	204
208=	Dear Old Things	(J Saunders)	204
208=	Hutton Hotspur	(P Sheriden)	204
208=	Fowney City	(P Fownes)	204
208=	Educated Feet 4	(A Sydenham)	204
208=	White Feathers	(M Catchpole)	204
208=	Gallowglass Utd	(M Deary)	204
208=	Inter Hooijdonk	(S Dickie)	204
208=	Nick's Naturals	(N Mayo)	204
208=	Parlez Vous	(A Weir)	204
208=	Blockhead United	(M Fox)	204
208=	Turnip United	(O Ashe)	204
208=	Crouch End Rovers	(M Mitchell)	204
208=	Steven's Wonders	(S Montgomery)	204
208=	Latent Margater	(G Boylan)	204
208=	Always Portugal 1	(V Guimaraes)	204
208=	Nissy's Stars	(N Nisbet)	204
208=	Hairy May	(N Pearson)	204
208=	March Pass	(M Mcgovern)	204
208=	SJ2	(J W Goody)	204
208=	Nobby J	(J Brown)	204
208=	Ginger FC	(C Armstrong)	204
235=	Zoo Power	(D Harrison)	203
235=	Not Bad For $35m	(A Harris)	203
235=	Do I Not Like Man Utd	(C D Woodward)	203
235=	The Big Man	(K Booth)	203
235=	True Blues 2	(R Sekhon)	203
235=	AFC Domestos	(G Singh Mangat)	203
235=	Jack Son Of Ripper	(R Edden)	203
235=	Tasha	(I Pigeon)	203
235=	Misuphasjecu	(M Culley)	203
235=	The Italian Job	(W Quayle)	203
235=	Southcroft Saints	(J Losinno)	203
235=	Ses Estaques 2nd	(C Dellimore)	203
235=	Raj Is Back To Kill	(R Gohil)	203
235=	My XI	(R Stratton)	203
235=	Shear Perfection	(M Patel)	203
235=	Totted Five	(E Kisby)	203

صكنا من الاصل

The ITF players, their points and their values if you are considering the transfer option

Code	Name	Team	£m	Pts Wk	Pts Ov
10101	M Watt	Aberdeen	1.50	0	-3
10102	N Walker	Aberdeen	1.00	-5	+1
10201	D Seaman	Arsenal	5.00	-1	+27
10202	V Bartram	Arsenal	0.75	0	0
10203	J Lukic	Arsenal	0.75	0	-8
10301	M Bosnich	Aston Villa	3.50	0	+1
10302	M Oakes	Aston Villa	1.00	-6	+5
10401	T Flowers	Blackburn Rovers	3.00	-1	-14
10402	S Given	Blackburn Rovers	2.00	0	0
10501	G Marshall	Celtic	3.50	0	-1
10601	D Kharine	Chelsea	2.50	0	+10
10602	K Hitchcock	Chelsea	2.00	0	-20
10701	S Ogrizovic	Coventry City	1.50	-3	-10
10702	J Filan	Coventry City	0.50	0	0
10801	M Taylor	Derby County	1.00	0	0
10802	R Hoult	Derby County	1.00	-1	-5
10901	A Maxwell	Dundee United	0.50	0	+4
10902	L Key	Dundee United	0.50	-5	-6
11001	I Westwater	Dunfermline	0.50	0	-18
11101	N Southall	Everton	2.50	-1	+2
11103	P Gerrard	Everton	2.50	+1	+1
[illegible]1201	G Rousset	Hearts	2.00	+10	-6
11301	J Leighton	Hibernian	1.50	+4	0
11401	D Lekovic	Kilmarnock	1.00	0	-25
11501	M Beeney	Leeds United	1.50	0	0
11502	P Evans	Leeds United	0.25	0	0
11503	N Martyn	Leeds United	2.50	-3	-11
11601	K Poole	Leicester City	1.00	0	-3
11603	K Keller	Leicester City	1.00	-1	-5
11701	D James	Liverpool	5.00	+5	+10
11702	A Warner	Liverpool	0.50	0	0
11801	P Schmeichel	Manchester United	5.00	+5	-8
11802	R van der Gouw	Manchester United	1.00	0	+5
11901	G Walsh	Middlesbrough	1.50	-3	-3
11902	A Miller	Middlesbrough	1.50	0	-23
12001	S Howie	Motherwell	1.50	-6	-17
12101	S Hislop	Newcastle United	4.00	0	-3
12102	P Srnicek	Newcastle United	3.00	-1	+4
12201	M Crossley	Nottingham Forest	2.50	0	-21
12202	A Fettis	Nottingham Forest	0.75	0	0
12203	T Wright	Nottingham Forest	0.75	0	0
12301	S Thomson	Raith Rovers	0.50	0	-20
12401	A Goram	Rangers	5.00	+6	+19
12501	K Pressman	Sheffield Wednesday	2.00	0	-9
12601	D Beasant	Southampton	1.00	0	-10
12602	N Moss	Southampton	0.25	0	+2
12603	C Woods	Southampton	1.50	-13	-13
12702	L Perez	Sunderland	0.50	-2	-7
[illegible]1803	A Coton	Sunderland	1.00	0	+9
[illegible]801	I Walker	Tottenham Hotspur	3.50	+5	+20
12901	L Miklosko	West Ham United	2.00	-1	-14
12902	S Mautone	West Ham United	0.50	0	+5
13001	N Sullivan	Wimbledon	1.00	-3	+4
13002	P Heald	Wimbledon	1.00	0	0

Code	Name	Team	£m	Pts Wk	Pts Ov
20101	S McKimmie	Aberdeen	2.00	-1	+8
20201	L Dixon	Arsenal	3.00	-1	+20
20202	N Winterburn	Arsenal	3.00	-1	+18
20203	S Morrow	Arsenal	1.00	0	+4
20301	S Staunton	Aston Villa	3.00	0	+10
20302	A Wright	Aston Villa	3.00	-2	+17
20303	G Charles	Aston Villa	2.50	0	0
20304	P King	Aston Villa	0.25	0	0
20305	F Nelson	Aston Villa	3.00	-1	+12
20401	H Berg	Blackburn Rovers	3.00	0	-2
20402	G Le Saux	Blackburn Rovers	3.00	0	+3
20403	J Kenna	Blackburn Rovers	3.00	0	-2
20404	G Croft	Blackburn Rovers	1.50	0	+2
20501	J McNamara	Celtic	3.00	-1	+8
20502	T McKinlay	Celtic	3.00	0	+1
20601	D Petrescu	Chelsea	3.00	+3	+8
20602	S Clarke	Chelsea	2.00	0	+3
20603	T Phelan	Chelsea	2.00	0	0
20604	S Minto	Chelsea	1.00	0	+5
20701	D Burrows	Coventry City	1.50	-1	-7
20703	B Borrows	Coventry City	1.00	0	-2
20704	M Hall	Coventry City	1.00	0	+4
20705	R Genaux	Coventry City	1.50	0	-2
[illegible]801	C Powell	Derby County	1.50	0	+5
[illegible]802	D Yates	Derby County	1.00	0	+2
[illegible]0803	J Kavanagh	Derby County	0.25	0	0
20804	P Parker	Derby County	1.00	0	+4
20901	M Malpas	Dundee United	1.00	-3	+9
20902	M Perry	Dundee United	0.50	-2	+4
20903	N Duffy	Dundee United	0.50	0	0
21001	C Miller	Dunfermline	0.25	0	-6
21002	A Tod	Dunfermline	0.25	0	-5
21101	M Hottiger	Everton	2.50	0	0
21102	A Hinchcliffe	Everton	2.00	0	+8
21103	E Barrett	Everton	1.50	0	+11
21104	M Jackson	Everton	1.00	0	0
21201	G Locke	Hearts	2.00	0	0
21202	N Pointon	Hearts	1.00	+4	-1
21301	W Miller	Hibernian	1.00	+3	+6
21302	A Dow	Hibernian	1.00	+4	+12
21402	G MacPherson	Kilmarnock	0.50	-3	-13
21501	G Kelly	Leeds United	3.00	-1	0
21502	A Dorigo	Leeds United	2.50	0	-1
21503	P Beesley	Leeds United	0.50	-1	0
21601	M Whitlow	Leicester City	0.50	0	+7
21602	S Grayson	Leicester City	0.50	0	+7
21603	N Lewis	Leicester City	0.50	0	0
21604	F Rolling	Leicester City	0.25	0	0
21701	R Jones	Liverpool	3.00	0	0
21702	S Harkness	Liverpool	1.50	0	0
21703	S I Bjornebye	Liverpool	0.50	+4	+18
21704	P Charnock	Liverpool	0.25	0	0
21801	D Irwin	Manchester United	4.00	0	+13
21802	G Neville	Manchester United	3.00	+4	+9
21803	P Neville	Manchester United	3.00	+4	0
21901	N Cox	Middlesbrough	2.50	-1	-6
21903	C Morris	Middlesbrough	1.50	0	0
21904	C Fleming	Middlesbrough	0.75	-1	-6
21905	C Blackmore	Middlesbrough	0.25	0	0
22002	S McMillan	Motherwell	0.50	0	+2
22101	W Barton	Newcastle United	3.00	0	-1
22102	S Watson	Newcastle United	3.00	0	+10
22103	R Elliott	Newcastle United	2.50	0	0
22104	J Beresford	Newcastle United	2.50	0	+7
22201	S Pearce	Nottingham Forest	4.00	0	-1
22202	D Lyttle	Nottingham Forest	2.00	0	-6
22203	A I Haaland	Nottingham Forest	1.00	0	+2
22204	N Jerkan	Nottingham Forest	2.00	0	+1
22301	P Bonar	Raith Rovers	0.75	0	-7
22302	D Kirkwood	Raith Rovers	0.50	0	-5
22401	D Robertson	Rangers	2.50	+4	+3
22402	J Brown	Rangers	2.00	0	0
22501	I Nolan	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	0	+4
22502	P Atherton	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	0	+8
22503	S Nicol	Sheffield Wednesday	1.00	0	-5
22504	D Stefanovic	Sheffield Wednesday	1.00	0	+2
22505	L Briscoe	Sheffield Wednesday	0.50	0	0
22601	J Dodd	Southampton	1.50	-6	-2
22602	F Benali	Southampton	0.75	0	-6
22603	S Charlton	Southampton	0.75	0	+4
22701	D Kubicki	Sunderland	0.50	-1	+11
22702	M Scott	Sunderland	0.50	-2	+7
22703	G Hall	Sunderland	0.25	-1	-1
22801	D Austin	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00	0	0
22802	C Wilson	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00	+4	+23
22803	J Edinburgh	Tottenham Hotspur	1.00	0	+13
22804	D Kerslake	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50	0	0
22805	S Carr	Tottenham Hotspur	1.00	+3	+3
22901	J Dicks	West Ham United	4.00	-1	+7
22902	T Breacker	West Ham United	1.00	0	0
22903	K Rowland	West Ham United	1.00	+2	-1
22904	M Bowen	West Ham United	1.00	0	+5
22905	K Brown	West Ham United	0.50	0	0
23001	B Thatcher	Wimbledon	1.50	0	+9
23002	A Kimble	Wimbledon	0.75	-1	0
23003	K Cunningham	Wimbledon	0.75	-1	+9
23004	D Jupp	Wimbledon	0.75	0	0
23006	C Perry	Wimbledon	0.25	-1	+13

Code	Name	Team	£m	Pts Wk	Pts Ov
30101	B Irvine	Aberdeen	2.00	-2	+7
30102	C Woodthorpe	Aberdeen	1.50	-1	-3
30201	A Adams	Arsenal	4.00	0	+15
30202	S Bould	Arsenal	3.00	-1	+20
30203	M Keown	Arsenal	3.00	0	+21
30204	A Linighan	Arsenal	1.00	0	+9
30205	S Marshall	Arsenal	1.00	0	0
30301	G Southgate	Aston Villa	3.50	-2	+16
30302	U Ehiogu	Aston Villa	3.00	-2	+18
30304	C Tiler	Aston Villa	1.00	-2	+9
30305	R Scimeca	Aston Villa	1.00	0	+1
30401	C Hendry	Blackburn Rovers	4.00	-1	+2
30402	I Pearce	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	0	0
30403	C Coleman	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	0	-3
30404	N Marker	Blackburn Rovers	0.50	0	+2
30501	T Boyd	Celtic	3.00	-1	+12
30502	M MacKay	Celtic	1.50	0	+3
30503	A Stubbs	Celtic	3.50	-1	+10
30504	B O'Neil	Celtic	3.00	0	0
30601	M Duberry	Chelsea	2.50	0	-3
30602	F Leboeuf	Chelsea	2.50	0	+16
30603	F Sinclair	Chelsea	2.00	0	0
30604	D Lee	Chelsea	2.00	0	+3
30605	A Myers	Chelsea	1.50	0	+6
30606	E Johnsen	Chelsea	1.50	0	+10
30607	J Kjeldbjerg	Chelsea	0.50	0	0
30701	L Daish	Coventry City	2.00	-1	+4
30702	R Shaw	Coventry City	1.50	-1	+2
30801	I Stimac	Derby County	2.50	0	-1
30802	D Wassall	Derby County	1.00	0	0
30303	P McGrath	Derby County	2.50	0	+2
30803	J Laursen	Derby County	1.00	0	+7
30804	M Carbon	Derby County	0.50	0	0
30901	S Pressley	Dundee United	1.00	-2	+7
31001	M Millar	Dunfermline	0.75	-1	-4
31002	I Den Bieman	Dunfermline	0.75	0	-7
31101	D Unsworth	Everton	2.50	0	+11
31102	D Watson	Everton	2.50	0	+5
31103	C Short	Everton	2.00	0	+11
31201	D McPherson	Hearts	1.00	+4	+8
31202	P Ritchie	Hearts	1.00	+8	+13
31301	J McLaughlin	Hibernian	0.50	0	-4
30902	B Welsh	Hibernian	0.75	0	+9
31302	G Hunter	Hibernian	0.50	+4	+7
31401	M Reilly	Kilmarnock	1.00	-2	-5
31402	R Montgomerie	Kilmarnock	0.75	-3	-4
31501	D Wetherall	Leeds United	2.50	0	+7
31502	R Jobson	Leeds United	1.00	0	+2
31503	L Radebe	Leeds United	1.00	-2	-4
31504	J Pemberton	Leeds United	0.50	0	0
31601	S Walsh	Leicester City	1.00	0	+4
31602	J Watts	Leicester City	1.00	0	+12
31603	P Kamark	Leicester City	0.50	0	0
31604	S Prior	Leicester City	1.00	0	+6
31701	P Babb	Liverpool	3.50	0	+10
31702	J Scales	Liverpool	3.50	0	0
31703	M Wright	Liverpool	3.50	+3	+12
31704	N Ruddock	Liverpool	3.00	+7	+7
31705	D Matteo	Liverpool	1.00	+4	+14
31801	G Pallister	Manchester United	3.50	0	+3
31802	D May	Manchester United	3.00	+4	+9
31803	R Johnsen	Manchester United	2.50	+3	+12
31901	N Pearson	Middlesbrough	1.50	0	-9
31902	S Vickers	Middlesbrough	1.50	-2	-6
31903	D Whyte	Middlesbrough	1.50	-1	-10
31904	P Whelan	Middlesbrough	0.75	0	-4
32001	B Martin	Motherwell	1.50	-3	-2
32002	M van der Gaag	Motherwell	0.75	0	+11
32101	P Albert	Newcastle United	4.50	0	+9
32102	S Howey	Newcastle United	3.00	0	+7
32103	D Peacock	Newcastle United	3.00	0	+12
32201	C Cooper	Nottingham Forest	3.00	0	-5
32202	S Chettle	Nottingham Forest	2.50	0	-1
32203	S Blatherwick	Nottingham Forest	1.00	0	0
32302	S Dennis	Raith Rovers	1.00	-4	-19
32401	R Gough	Rangers	3.50	+3	+24
32402	A McLaren	Rangers	3.00	0	0
32403	J Bjorklund	Rangers	3.50	+4	+16
32404	G Petric	Rangers	2.50	+4	+10
32501	J Newsome	Sheffield Wednesday	2.00	0	+2
32502	D Walker	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	0	+5
32503	B Linighan	Sheffield Wednesday	0.25	0	0
32601	K Monkou	Southampton	1.50	-6	-10
32602	A Neilson	Southampton	1.00	-1	-2
32603	R Dryden	Southampton	0.50	0	+1
32604	C Lundekvam	Southampton	0.50	-6	-5
32605	U van Gobbel	Southampton	1.50	-6	-9
32701	A Melville	Sunderland	1.00	-2	+10
32702	K Ball	Sunderland	1.00	-1	+10
32703	R Ord	Sunderland	0.50	0	+12
32801	S Campbell	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50	+4	+22
32802	C Calderwood	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50	+4	+20
32803	G Mabbutt	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00	0	0
32804	J Cundy	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50	0	0
32805	K Scott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50	0	0
32806	S Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50	0	-3
32901	S Bilic	West Ham United	2.50	-1	+3
32902	M Rieper	West Ham United	2.50	0	+3
32903	S Potts	West Ham United	2.00	0	-2
32904	R Hall	West Ham United	1.50	0	0
32905	R Ferdinand	West Ham United	0.50	0	0
33001	A Reeves	Wimbledon	1.00	0	0
33003	A Pearce	Wimbledon	0.75	0	0
33004	D Blackwell	Wimbledon	0.50	-2	0
33005	B McAllister	Wimbledon	0.50	0	+12
33006	S Fitzgerald	Wimbledon	0.25	0	0

Coyne, left, of Motherwell, was the outstanding ITF striker of this week. But did you select him in your team?

MIDFIELD PLAYERS

Code	Name	Team	£m	Pts Wk	Pts Ov
40101	D Windass	Aberdeen	3.00	0	+11
40102	S Glass	Aberdeen	3.00	0	+7
40103	P Bernard	Aberdeen	2.50	0	+1
40104	I Kiriakov	Aberdeen	2.50	+3	+13
40105	T Tzvetanov	Aberdeen	0.50	+1	+13
40201	D Platt	Arsenal	4.50	0	+15
40202	P Merson	Arsenal	4.00	+1	+26
40203	R Parlour	Arsenal	2.00	0	+9
40204	G Helder	Arsenal	1.50	0	0
40205	I Selley	Arsenal	0.50	0	0
40208	P Vieira	Arsenal	3.00	0	+10
40209	R Garde	Arsenal	2.00	0	0
40301	M Draper	Aston Villa	4.00	0	+10
40302	A Townsend	Aston Villa	2.50	0	+17
40303	I Taylor	Aston Villa	2.50	+1	+11
40304	G Farrelly	Aston Villa	1.00	0	0
40306	S Curcic	Aston Villa	3.50	+1	+13
40401	J Wilcox	Blackburn Rovers	4.00	+1	+11
40402	L Bohinen	Blackburn Rovers	3.50	0	+11
40403	G Flitcroft	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	+1	+8
40404	W McKinlay	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	0	+1
40405	T Sherwood	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	+1	+12
40406	P Warhurst	Blackburn Rovers	1.50	0	+3
40407	G Donis	Blackburn Rovers	1.50	0	+14
40408	S Ripley	Blackburn Rovers	1.00	0	+5
40409	M Holmes	Blackburn Rovers	0.75	0	0
40501	P McStay	Celtic	3.00	0	0
40502	A Thom	Celtic	2.50	+1	+17
40503	S Donnelly	Celtic	2.50	+1	+13
40504	P Grant	Celtic	1.50	+1	+14
40505	P Di Canio	Celtic	3.00	0	+18
40601	R Gullit	Chelsea	3.50	0	+3
40602	D Wise	Chelsea	3.00	+1	+14
40603	G Peacock	Chelsea	2.50	0	0
40604	C Burley	Chelsea	2.00	+1	+13
40605	E Newton	Chelsea	2.00	0	+2
40607	D Rocastle	Chelsea	0.50	0	0
40608	R Di Matteo	Chelsea	3.00	+1	+21
40609	J Morris	Chelsea	2.00	0	0
40701	J Salako	Coventry City	2.50	+1	+18
41501	G McAllister	Coventry City	5.50	+1	+19
40702	E Jess	Coventry City	2.00	+1	+8
40703	K Richardson	Coventry City	1.50	0	+10
40704	P Telfer	Coventry City	1.50	0	+11
40705	P Williams	Coventry City	1.50	+1	+7
40706	M Isaias	Coventry City	0.50	0	0
40707	W Boland	Coventry City	0.25	0	0
40708	M O'Neill	Coventry City	1.50	0	+1
40801	A Asanovic	Derby County	2.00	+2	+17
40802	P Simpson	Derby County	1.50	0	+2
40803	R van der Laan	Derby County	1.50	0	+2
40804	D Powell	Derby County	1.00	0	+11
40805	S Flynn	Derby County	0.75	+1	+6
40807	G Rowett	Derby County	0.50	+1	+12
40809	C Dailly	Derby County	1.50	+1	+17
40901	G McSwegan	Dundee United	2.00	0	+15
40902	R Winters	Dundee United	1.50	+3	+15
40903	G Johnson	Dundee United	1.00	0	0
42303	J McInally	Dundee United	0.75	0	+4
40904	D Bowman	Dundee United	0.75	+1	+8
40905	A Benneker	Dundee United	0.50	0	+2
41001	H French	Dunfermline	1.00	+3	+15
41002	C Robertson	Dunfermline	1.00	+1	+11
41003	A Smith	Dunfermline	0.75	+1	+13
41004	D Fleming	Dunfermline	0.50	0	+10
41101	A Kanchelskis	Everton	7.00	+5	+22
41102	G Speed	Everton	4.00	+13	+30
41103	J Ebbrell	Everton	1.50	0	+6
41104	J Parkinson	Everton	1.50	+1	+14
41105	A Limpar	Everton	1.50	0	+1
41106	A Grant	Everton	0.50	+1	+4
41107	V Samways	Everton	0.50	0	0
41202	A McManus	Hearts	1.50	0	+4
41203	S Fulton	Hearts	1.00	+3	+5
41301	K McAllister	Hibernian	1.50	+2	+11
41302	P McGinlay	Hibernian	1.50	+1	+7
41303	G Love	Hibernian	0.75	0	0
41304	A Millen	Hibernian	0.50	0	+11
41305	I Cameron	Hibernian	0.75	0	+3
41401	A Mitchell	Kilmarnock	1.00	0	+9
41402	J McIntyre	Kilmarnock	1.00	+1	+11
41403	M Skilling	Kilmarnock	0.75	0	0
41404	J Lauchlan	Kilmarnock	0.50	0	+2
41502	L Bowyer	Leeds United	3.00	+1	+11
41503	A Gray	Leeds United	2.50	0	+1
41504	C Palmer	Leeds United	2.00	+1	+5
41505	R Wallace	Leeds United	1.50	0	+13
41805	L Sharpe	Leeds United	3.50	+1	+20
41506	I Harte	Leeds United	1.00	0	+14
41507	M Ford	Leeds United	0.50	+1	+14
41508	A Couzens	Leeds United	0.50	0	+8
41509	M Tinkler	Leeds United	0.50	0	+2
41601	N Lennon	Leicester City	2.00	+1	+13
41602	G Parker	Leicester City	2.00	+3	+5
41603	S Taylor	Leicester City	2.00	0	+12
41604	J Lawrence	Leicester City	0.25	0	0
40606	M Izzet	Leicester City	1.00	+3	+16
41701	S McManaman	Liverpool	7.00	+4	+23
41702	J McAteer	Liverpool	4.00	+2	+14
41703	J Redknapp	Liverpool	4.00	+2	+4
41704	J Barnes	Liverpool	3.00	+2	+21
41705	M Thomas	Liverpool	2.50	+2	+19
41706	M Kennedy	Liverpool	1.00	0	0
41707	P Berger	Liverpool	3.00	0	+15
41801	R Giggs	Manchester United	7.00	+2	+12
41802	R Keane	Manchester United	4.50	0	+1
41803	D Beckham	Manchester United	4.00	+2	+24
41804	N Butt	Manchester United	3.50	+2	+10
41806	B McClair	Manchester United	1.50	0	+3
41807	T Cooke	Manchester United	1.00	0	0
41808	B Thornley	Manchester United	1.00	0	0
41809	S Davies	Manchester United	0.50	0	0
41810	J Cruyff	Manchester United	2.50	0	+15
41811	K Poborsky	Manchester United	4.00	+2	+13
41901	Emerson	Middlesbrough	3.50	0	+13
41902	Juninho	Middlesbrough	3.50	0	+20
41903	C Hignett	Middlesbrough	2.00	+1	+1
41905	A Moore	Middlesbrough	1.00	0	0
41906	R Mustoe	Middlesbrough	1.00	+1	+12
41908	C Liddle	Middlesbrough	0.50	0	0
41909	B Robson	Middlesbrough	0.50	0	0
41910	P Stamp	Middlesbrough	0.50	0	+7
42001	C McCart	Motherwell	2.00	+2	+7
42002	J Philliben	Motherwell	1.00	+3	+4
42003	J Dolan	Motherwell	1.00	0	+5
42004	J Hendry	Motherwell	0.75	0	+2
42101	D Ginola	Newcastle United	5.50	+1	+13
42102	R Lee	Newcastle United	5.50	+1	+18
42103	K Gillespie	Newcastle United	4.50	+1	+8
42104	D Batty	Newcastle United	3.00	+1	+15
42105	L Clark	Newcastle United	3.00	+1	+3
42201	I Woan	Nottingham Forest	4.50	0	+12
42202	S Stone	Nottingham Forest	4.00	0	+2
42203	S Gemmill	Nottingham Forest	2.50	0	+5
42204	C Bart-Williams	Nottingham Forest	2.00	0	+9
42205	D Phillips	Nottingham Forest	1.00	0	+5
42301	T Rougier	Raith Rovers	2.00	+1	+13
42302	D Lennon	Raith Rovers	1.00	+1	+9
42304	S Thomson	Raith Rovers	0.50	+1	+11
42401	P Gascoigne	Rangers	7.00	+1	+36
42402	B Laudrup	Rangers	5.00	+4	+23
42403	S McCall	Rangers	2.00	0	+9
42404	T Steven	Rangers	1.50	0	0
42405	J Albertz	Rangers	4.00	+2	+17
42501	R Blinker	Sheffield Wednesday	2.50	0	+11
42502	M Pembridge	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	0	+7
42503	J Sheridan	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	0	0
42504	G Hyde	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	0	+7
42506	M Williams	Sheffield Wednesday	0.50	0	0
42507	R Jones	Sheffield Wednesday	0.50	0	0
42508	S Oakes	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	0	+2
42509	W Collins	Sheffield Wednesday	0.75	0	+7
42510	O Trustfull	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	0	+6
42511	B Carbone	Sheffield Wednesday	3.00	0	+3
42601	J Magilton	Southampton	2.50	+1	+13
42602	N Heaney	Southampton	1.00	0	+8
42604	B Venison	Southampton	1.00	0	0
42606	D Hughes	Southampton	0.50	0	0
42906	R Slater	Southampton	1.00	+1	+8
42607	M Oakley	Southampton	0.50	0	+12
42608	P Tisdale	Southampton	0.50	0	0
42609	M Robinson	Southampton	0.25	0	0
42610	G Potter	Southampton	0.50	0	0
42611	E Berkovic	Southampton	1.00	+1	+8
42701	M Gray	Sunderland	2.50	+1	+18
42702	S Agnew	Sunderland	1.50	0	+10
42703	A Rae	Sunderland	1.50	0	+2
42704	P Bracewell	Sunderland	0.75	+1	+16
42705	M Smith	Sunderland	1.00	0	0
42801	D Anderton	Tottenham Hotspur	5.50	+2	+8
42802	R Fox	Tottenham Hotspur	4.00	0	+15
42803	D Howells	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00	+2	+17
42804	J Dozzell	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00	0	+2
42805	A Sinton	Tottenham Hotspur	1.50	+3	+11
42806	R Rosenthal	Tottenham Hotspur	1.50	0	+1
42809	A Nielsen	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50	+2	+16
42901	P Futre	West Ham United	3.50	0	+4
42902	I Bishop	West Ham United	2.00	+1	+8
42903	M Hughes	West Ham United	2.00	+1	+21
42904	D Williamson	West Ham United	1.50	0	+7
42905	J Moncur	West Ham United	1.50	0	+9
42907	S Lazarides	West Ham United	0.25	0	+7
43001	R Earle	Wimbledon	4.00	+3	+27
43002	O Leonhardsen	Wimbledon	2.50	+1	+13
43003	M Gayle	Wimbledon	2.00	+3	+28
43004	V Jones	Wimbledon	1.50	+1	+16
43005	N Ardley	Wimbledon	0.50	+1	+21
43006	S Castledine	Wimbledon	0.50	0	0
43007	P Fear	Wimbledon	0.25	-1	-2

STRIKERS

Code	Name	Team	£m	Pts Wk	Pts Ov
50101	S Booth	Aberdeen	4.50	0	+1
50102	D Shearer	Aberdeen	3.00	0	+3
50103	W Dodds	Aberdeen	5.00	+3	+11
50201	I Wright	Arsenal	7.00	0	+32
50202	D Bergkamp	Arsenal	7.00	+1	+13
50203	J Hartson	Arsenal	3.50	0	+8
50205	C Kiwomya	Arsenal	0.50	0	0
50301	D Yorke	Aston Villa	7.50	+3	+30
50303	T Johnson	Aston Villa	4.00	+1	+12
50304	J Joachim	Aston Villa	2.00	0	+4
50402	K Gallacher	Blackburn Rovers	3.00	+3	+10
50404	C Sutton	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	+1	+16
50405	G Fenton	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	0	+3
50406	N Gudmundsson	Blackburn Rovers	1.00	0	0
50501	P van Hooijdonk	Celtic	7.00	-1	+23
50502	J Cadete	Celtic	6.00	0	+12
50601	G Vialli	Chelsea	5.00	+1	+24
50602	M Hughes	Chelsea	4.00	0	+11
50603	J Spencer	Chelsea	4.00	0	0
50605	M Stein	Chelsea	0.50	0	0
50606	G Zola	Chelsea	5.00	+1	+1
50701	N Whelan	Coventry City	6.00	+3	+14
50702	D Dublin	Coventry City	5.00	+3	+15
50703	P Ndlovu	Coventry City	3.00	+1	+2
50801	D Sturridge	Derby County	3.00	+1	+9
50802	M Gabbiadini	Derby County	2.00	0	+5
50803	A Ward	Derby County	2.00	+1	+8
50804	R Willems	Derby County	1.00	0	+7
50902	O Coyle	Dundee United	2.00	0	+4
51001	A Moore	Dunfermline	2.00	0	+5
51002	S Petrie	Dunfermline	2.00	+1	+9
51101	D Ferguson	Everton	6.00	0	+8
51901	N Barmby	Everton	4.00	+3	+16
51102	G Stuart	Everton	3.00	+3	+18
51104	P Rideout	Everton	2.00	0	+1
51105	M Branch	Everton	1.50	0	0
51201	J Robertson	Hearts	3.50	+4	+14
51202	C Cameron	Hearts	3.50	+2	+19
51203	D Beckford	Hearts	0.50	0	+4
51301	K Wright	Hibernian	3.00	0	+7
51302	D Jackson	Hibernian	3.00	+1	+15
51401	P Wright	Kilmarnock	3.00	+5	+25
51501	A Yeboah	Leeds United	7.00	0	0
51502	I Rush	Leeds United	3.50	0	+8
51504	B Deane	Leeds United	2.00	+1	+6
51601	S Claridge	Leicester City	2.50	+3	+16
51602	E Heskey	Leicester City	2.00	0	+17
51603	M Robins	Leicester City	0.75	0	+1
51604	I Marshall	Leicester City	0.75	0	+6
51701	R Fowler	Liverpool	9.00	+1	+17
51702	S Collymore	Liverpool	8.00	0	+11
51801	E Cantona	Manchester United	8.50	+1	+16
51802	P Scholes	Manchester United	5.00	0	+4
51803	A Cole	Manchester United	4.50	0	+1
51804	O G Solskjaer	Manchester United	3.00	+1	+15
51902	J Fjortoft	Middlesbrough	2.50	0	0
51905	F Ravanelli	Middlesbrough	5.00	+3	+33
51906	M Beck	Middlesbrough	2.50	+1	+5
52001	T Coyne	Motherwell	2.00	+14	+14
52002	D Arnott	Motherwell	1.50	+2	+17
50401	A Shearer	Newcastle United	10.0	0	+24
52101	L Ferdinand	Newcastle United	8.50	0	+25
52102	F Asprilla	Newcastle United	6.50	+1	+5
52103	P Beardsley	Newcastle United	5.00	+3	+17
52104	P Kitson	Newcastle United	1.50	0	0
52105	D Huckerby	Newcastle United	0.50	0	0
52201	D Saunders	Nottingham Forest	3.50	0	+16
52202	B Roy	Nottingham Forest	3.00	0	+2
52203	P McGregor	Nottingham Forest	1.50	0	0
52204	K Campbell	Nottingham Forest	1.50	0	+16
52205	J Lee	Nottingham Forest	1.50	0	+7
52206	S Howe	Nottingham Forest	0.50	0	0
52207	A Silenzi	Nottingham Forest	0.50	0	+1
52301	P Duffield	Raith Rovers	2.00	+2	+11
52401	G Durie	Rangers	6.00	0	+3
52402	E Andersen	Rangers	5.00	0	+2
52403	A McCoist	Rangers	5.00	0	+18
52404	P van Vossen	Rangers	6.00	0	0
52501	D Hirst	Sheffield Wednesday	3.00	0	+6
52502	A Booth	Sheffield Wednesday	2.50	0	+20
52503	M Bright	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	0	0
52504	G Whittingham	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	0	+13
52505	O Donaldson	Sheffield Wednesday	0.50	0	0
52506	R Humphreys	Sheffield Wednesday	2.00	0	+5
52601	M Le Tissier	Southampton	7.00	+1	+25
52603	G Watson	Southampton	1.50	0	+6
52604	F Bennett	Southampton	0.25	0	0
52605	E Ostenstad	Southampton	2.00	+3	+18
52701	P Stewart	Sunderland	1.00	-2	+5
52702	C Russell	Sunderland	1.00	0	+5
52703	D Kelly	Sunderland	1.00	+1	+4
52704	L Howey	Sunderland	0.50	0	+2
52705	M Bridges	Sunderland	0.50	0	+2
52706	B Angell	Sunderland	0.25	0	0
52708	N Quinn	Sunderland	3.00	0	+7
52801	E Sheringham	Tottenham Hotspur	8.00	+2	+15
52802	C Armstrong	Tottenham Hotspur	7.00	0	+18
52803	R Allen	Tottenham Hotspur	0.75	0	0
52901	F Raducioiu	West Ham United	3.00	+1	+5
52902	I Dumitrescu	West Ham United	2.50	0	+2
52903	I Dowie	West Ham United	2.00	+1	+9
52905	S Jones	West Ham United	1.50	0	+2
53001	D Holdsworth	Wimbledon	3.00	0	+3
53002	E Ekoku	Wimbledon	3.00	+1	+20
53003	J Goodman	Wimbledon	1.50	0	+3
53004	J Euell	Wimbledon	0.75	0	0
53005	A Clarke	Wimbledon	0.75	0	+5
53006	M Harford	Wimbledon	0.50	0	0
53007	G Blissett	Wimbledon	0.50	0	0

MANAGERS

Code	Name	Team	£m	Pts Wk	Pts Ov
60101	R Aitken	Aberdeen	2.50	+1	+15
60202	A Wenger	Arsenal	3.50	-1	+7
60301	B Little	Aston Villa	3.50	-1	+13
60501	T Burns	Celtic	4.00	-1	+23
60601	R Gullit	Chelsea	2.50	+1	+21
60701	R Atkinson	Coventry City	1.50	+1	+5
60801	J Smith	Derby County	0.75	+3	+13
62302	T McLean	Dundee United	0.75	+1	+10
61001	W Paton	Dunfermline	0.50	+3	+12
61101	J Royle	Everton	3.00	+3	+16
61201	J Jefferies	Hearts	2.00	+4	+15
61401	A Totten	Kilmarnock	0.75	-1	+1
61502	G Graham	Leeds United	2.00	-1	0
61601	M O'Neill	Leicester City	0.50	+3	+11
61701	R Evans	Liverpool	4.50	+3	+24
61801	A Ferguson	Manchester United	5.00	+3	+19
61901	B Robson	Middlesbrough	2.00	-1	+7
62001	A McLeish	Motherwell	1.50	+2	+8
62101	K Keegan	Newcastle United	4.50	+1	+25
62201	F Clark	Nottingham Forest	2.50	0	+2
62303	I Munro	Raith Rovers	0.50	-1	-2
62401	W Smith	Rangers	5.00	+3	+25
62501	D Pleat	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	0	+12
62601	G Souness	Southampton	0.50	-1	+7
62701	P Reid	Sunderland	0.50	-1	+7
62801	G Francis	Tottenham Hotspur	3.00	+3	+15
62901	H Redknapp	West Ham United	2.00	+1	+9
63001	J Kinnear	Wimbledon	1.00	+1	+21

THE TIMES TODAY

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 19 1996

NEWS

Firearms Bill rebels accept defeat

■ An attempt by Tory MPs to water down the Government's new gun controls, which have been prompted by the Dunblane massacre, crumbled in the Commons.

With parents of some victims watching from the public gallery, amendments to the Firearms Bill that would have excluded single-shot and sporting pistols were withdrawn as their proposers accepted they would be easily defeated. But a move backed by Labour and the Liberal Democrats to widen the ban seemed destined to fail .... Pages 1, 2, 10

Portillo backs arms exports inquiry

■ Michael Portillo backed calls for a fresh investigation into Britain's arms export policy after the disclosure that a British company supplied weapons to Rwanda's Government during the genocide of a million people .... Pages 1, 2, 12

Belgian scandal

The Belgian Deputy Prime Minister and a regional minister were at the centre of criminal investigations into paedophilia as the inquiry into last summer's murder scandal grew .... Page 1

Sinn Fein support

Dick Spring, the Irish Deputy Prime Minister, has backed Sinn Fein's stance on the peace process in Northern Ireland .... Page 2

Knife raid

A man whose death in police custody sparked a riot in Brixton last year was said to have carried out a "petrifying" knifepoint burglary just before his arrest, an inquest was told .... Page 3

Prescott cache

John Prescott, Labour's deputy leader, who defended the secret £500,000 fund set up to pay Tony Blair's office expenses, has a similar private account, it was disclosed .... Page 4

New number

A £20,000 campaign to free trainspotters from ridicule invoked the names of well-known enthusiasts and commissioned designs for an outfit to replace the classic anorak.................. Page 5

Jams tomorrow?

A £30 million scheme to control vehicle movements on motorways — a ground-based version of air traffic control — may be in use inside three years .... Page 6

Leaving Palace

Charles Anson, the Queen's official spokesman, is leaving his post as Buckingham Palace press secretary early next year to return to private industry .... Page 9

Fundraiser axed

The Democratic Party has dismissed John Huang, the fundraiser who embroiled President Clinton's election campaign in controversy about suspect Asian contributions .... Page 11

Boutros Ghali out

Years of acrimony in US-UN relations culminated with Washington denying Boutros Boutros Ghali a second term as UN Secretary-General .... Page 11

Hutu invasion plan

Thousands of Hutu refugees are heading deeper into eastern Zaire's interior to establish a "safe and sure base" for a future invasion of Rwanda .... Page 12

Into the unseen

Worldwide observation might have prevented the loss of the £180 million *Mars-96* spacecraft; the Russians could not see that a simple latch had failed to disconnect it from the final rocket motor .... Page 13

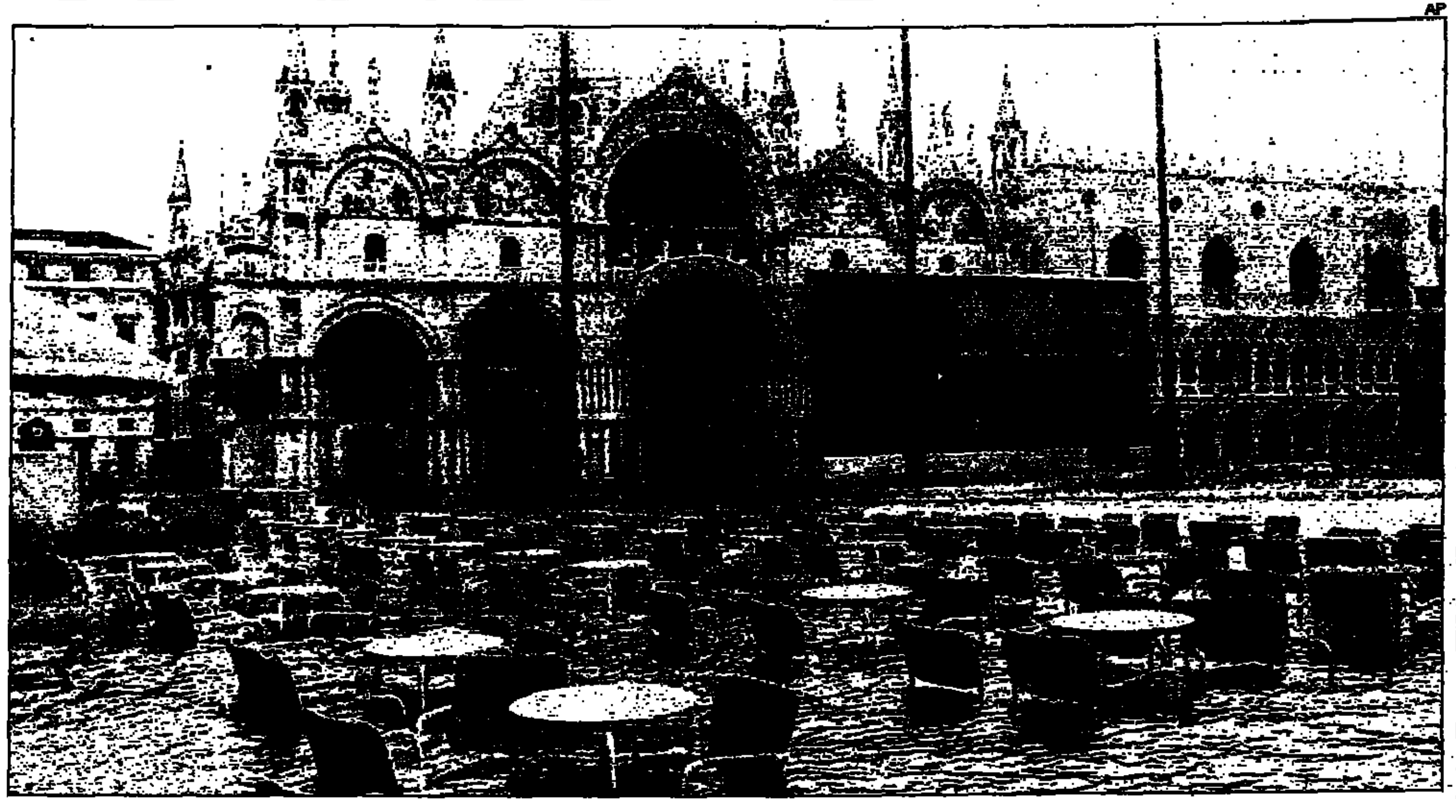
Getting on line

Germans raided piggy banks and savings accounts to buy about £8 billion worth of Deutsche Telekom shares in Europe's largest public offer yet.... Pages 13, 27

Stolen jokes pack cruel punchline

■ A man who collected £10,000 in exchange for Bob Monkhouse's comedy sketches which were stolen last year discovered the best jokes often have a sting in the tail. As the 47-year-old handed over the missing gags to Peter Pritchard, Mr Monkhouse's agent, he was arrested by police who were lying in wait at the West End offices in London .... Page 1

AP



Water but no café customers as rainfall and strong winds leave floods a foot deep in St Mark's Square in Venice yesterday

BUSINESS

Economy: The Government paid back £4.39 billion of debt in October, leaving the Chancellor on course to hit the year's £26.9 billion borrowing target................ Page 27

Housing market: A shortage of homes for sale has led to some "panic buying" by people scared of missing a housing boom, a RICS survey says .... Page 27

Toys: Tyco Toys is merging with Mattel, the Barbie, Disney and Fisher Price corporation, in a $755 million share deal .... Page 27

Markets: The FT-SE 100 Index rose 3.6 points to close at 3961.8. Sterling's trade-weighted index remained unchanged at 92.0 after a rise from $1.6661 to $1.6714 but a fall from DM2.5130 to DM2.5094......................... Page 30

SPORT

Cup hope: Terry Venables, the former England football coach, is still considering whether to try to lead Australia into the 1998 World Cup finals .... Page 52

Home game?: David Ginola will attempt to state his case for regaining a place in the French international side when he plays for Newcastle against Metz in the Uefa Cup .... Page 47

Net gain: The Lawn Tennis Association's income from Wimbledon rose this year to £29.1 million, giving the governing body a gross income of £45.1 million...... Page 50

New club: Ed Giddins, the bowler sacked by Sussex and suspended for 19 months after testing postive for cocaine, has signed with Warwickshire .... Page 52

ARTS

Oz buzz: Australian films have never been better, and a fine dozen can be seen at the London Film Festival: but will they get the distribution they deserve? .... Page 36

Plane speaking: Forbidden to fly, the war artist Paul Nash still produced tortured pictures of the Second World War's airborne destruction, now on show at the Imperial War Museum ..... Page 37

Classic snaps: The Victoria and Albert Museum is showing a magnificent selection of American photography 1890-1965; this is "art masquerading as accident", says John Russell Taylor .... Page 37

Charm offensive: On a cold Dublin night, Irish fans give Sting a warm reception as he opens his tour with an excellent band .... Page 38

London scene: Hedonistic excess has gone. The caring Nineties has spawned the Portobello Princess, who lives where seediness mixes with stiff upper lips .... Page 15

Medical mystery: Psychosurgery is used to combat mental illness, but how does it work? .... Page 14

Tough on crime?: Reality shows that the controversial Crime Bill does the opposite .... Page 41

Getting closer: Why the French are looking at our civil justice system and European magistrates are failing to fight sleaze .... Page 43

The right school: Day 2 — the battle to stay the best and awards that tell their own story .... Page 40

Push-button future: The fight for your phone line .... Pages 21-23

The FAO's "summit against hunger" has expressed its firm opposition to using food embargoes as political pressure. The embargo against Iraq exemplifies such action, one which has not only castigated the suffering Iraqi population, but seems also to have strengthened the regime of Saddam Hussein. *El Pais, Madrid*

TOMORROW

SCHOOLS WEEK IN THE TIMES

IN THE TIMES

■ EDUCATION

The new secondary school league tables: full listings in our 24-page guide for parents

■ FASHION

Coats that count: the bold styles we should be warming to this winter

Preview: He was acquitted but still feels persecuted. *The Trial of Kevin Maxwell* (BBC1, 10.25pm); **Review:** Lynne Truss on a magic moment along *The Crow Road* .... Page 51

Arms to Rwanda

Ministers cannot be blamed for failure to detect arms shipments worth little more than £3 million ... but the Government risks justified contempt if it does not tighten up further .... Page 17

Zero tolerance

The more vigorously laws are enforced, the more likely the law is to be respected. The problem with "zero tolerance" is it is not being introduced more widely .... Page 17

Major jam ahead

The Government has announced, with great fanfare, a £30 million scheme to end traffic jams on Britain's trunk roads. It is the kind of pre-election wizardry tailor-made to appeal to the voting motorist .... Page 17

ANATOLE KALETSKY

To steal a march on the Germans, the French Government has announced that it will convert all its public debt from francs into euros on January 1, 1999 .... Page 16

CONOR CRUISE O'BRIEN

Zaire's condition now appears to be terminal, and international efforts to preserve its integrity will only increase the agonies of its peoples. It should be allowed to assume such shapes as the energies and aspirations of its various peoples may assign to it................. Page 16

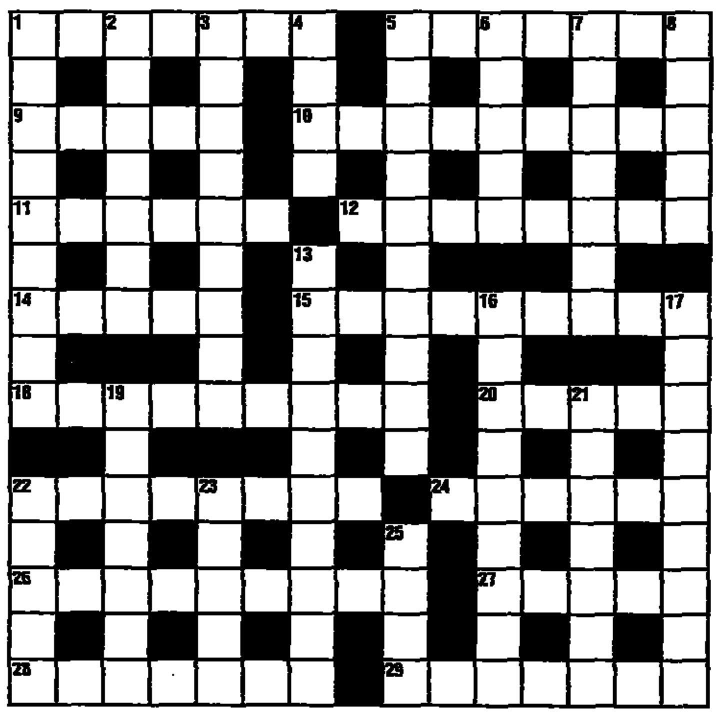
PETER RIDDELL

A Blair Government *could* still enter a European single currency in the first wave. The chances are perhaps only about 30 to 40 per cent at most even if Labour has comfortable working majority. But that is more than the [illegible] chances under the Tories .... Page 10

Reginald Bevins, former Postmaster-General; **Kenneth Morton-Evans**, wartime intelligence; **Lars Ake-Nilsson**, Swedish Ambassador to London .... Page 19

No opt out on 48-hour week; rationing in the NHS; the end of *Mastermind* .... Page 17

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,329



ACROSS

1 Part of the cover-up for first offenders (3-4).
5 Bishop introduces appropriate doctrine in early service (7).
9 Romantic youth in Italian city finding love (5).
10 Impeccable advice to heavy-handed dyer? (9).
11 Inflexible court of French Revolution, ultimately (6).
12 Switch leading cards to get controlling position (4,4).
14 About to appear before first lady magistrate (5).
15 Pieces in redesigned tandem that could improve motion (9).
18 Having windows covered, say, in building (9).
20 It produces lustre in many a gem (5).
22 Its message may refer to the view of the other side (8).
24 Instrument with note echoing freely (6).
26 Equipment in good shape to carry vessel to river (9).
27 Cricketer returning a couple of ducks is unacceptable (5).
28 Thoroughly soaked from exercises in bay, perhaps (7).
29 Karen's kind of cat (7).

DOWN

1 Enthuse over plant's brilliant display (9).
2 Shade wild animals found around marsh (7).
3 Hurried departure from work in fire, perhaps (9).
4 Duke's handwriting (4).
5 Onshore establisments in Omaha and Utah, for example (10).
6 Popular and universal ingredients in very soft cheesecake (3-2).
7 Unlettered, but not ill-equipped to speak repeatedly (7).
8 Employed to shore up motorway, it is thought (5).
13 Legitimate reason for entertainment centre (10).
16 Painter changed red coat to yellow (9).
17 Squeeze together in quarters and manage after rent goes up (9).
19 University professors, discontented, press for a rise (7).
21 River Board makes it fit to drink (7).
22 Advertisements showing shortage of inspiration? (5).
23 Primate essential to church improvements (5).
25 Simple little fellow (4).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,328

B	A	T	T	A	L	I	O	N		H	U	M	I	D
E		A		P		N		A		O		E		E
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E		T		R		I		E		E		I		L
S	E	E	D	Y		F	O	R	E	S	H	O	R	E

Times Two Crossword, page 52

AA INFORMATION

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HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises:	Sun sets:
7 26 am	4 06 pm
Moon sets	**Moon rises**
12.18 am	1.34 pm

Full moon November 25

London 4.06 pm to 7 27 am
Bristol 4 16 pm to 7 37 am
Edinburgh 3 58 pm to 8 00 am
Manchester 4 06 pm to 7 44 am
Penzance 4.33 pm to 7 44 am

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FORECAST

☐ **General:** The southern half of England and Wales, after a frosty start, will quickly cloud over from the West as wet and windy weather spreads to all parts. Heavy rain or sleet is likely, with snow over hills and moors from the South West to Wales and the Midlands. Northern England will be bright and dry.

Scotland and Northern Ireland will be bright or sunny with wintry showers on the east coast, a few inland.

☐ **London, SE England, E Anglia, Midlands, N Wales:** frosty start, cloud spreading from west. Rain or sleet becoming heavy and persistent, snow on hills. Wind becoming strong southeast, perhaps gale in places. Cold Max 5C (41F).

☐ **Central S England, Channel Isles, SW England, S Wales:** overcast. Rain or sleet, snow on hills. Perhaps brighter in afternoon. Winds strong to gale southeast or east. Cold. Max 7C (45F).

☐ **E England, NW England, Isle of Man, Central N England:** frosty start. Sunny periods, then cloud increasing, perhaps patchy sleet, snow on hills. Winds becoming strong easterly. Cold. Max 4C (39F).

☐ **Lake District, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Argyll, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland, N Ireland:** early frost or fog clearing. Bright or sunny periods. East coast showers, a few pushing inland. Wind light or moderate easterly. Cold. Max 5C (41F).

☐ **Outlook:** overcast wet weather in South clearing, then all parts bright and mainly dry. Cold.

AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

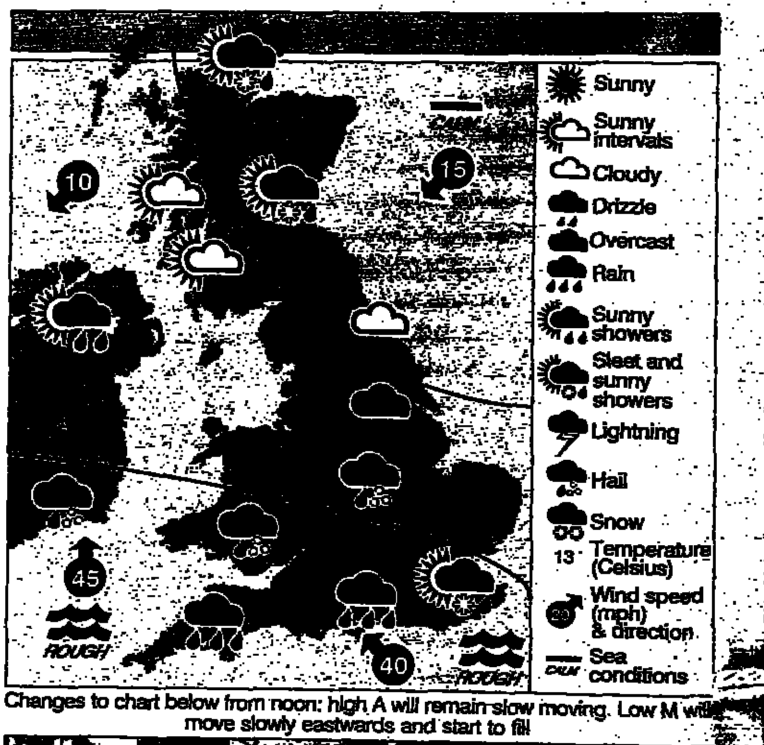
24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	4.6	0.01	4	39	s	London	7.5	0.02	7	45	s
Anglesey	2.9	0.17	7	45	sh	Lowestoft	-	0.17	7	45	r
Aspatria	6.7	-	5	41	s	Manchester	5.1	0.01	5	41	s
Aviemore	5.2	-	1	34	s	Margate	4.8	0.07	7	45	s
Belfast	-	0.01	1	34	fg	Minehead	6.9	-	8	46	s
Birmingham	7.2	0.06	5	41	s	Morecambe	6.4	-	5	41	s
Bognor R	7.6	-	6	43	s	Newcastle	7.2	-	5	41	s
Bournem'th	7.8	0.01	7	45	s	Newquay	4.5	0.04	8	46	s
Bristol	7.9	-	8	46	s	Norwich	2.8	0.10	7	45	sh
Buxton	7.5	0.02	2	36	s	Oxford	7.2	0.06	5	41	s
Cardiff	7.7	-	7	45	s	Penzance	X	0.13	10	50	h
Cromer	3.4	0.14	8	46	b	Poole	7.3	0.01	6	43	s
Eastbourne	5.1	0.03	6	43	b	Prestatyn	X	0.01	7	45	b
Edinburgh	4.2	-	5	41	s	Ross-o-wye	6.8	-	8	46	s
Eskdalemuir	6.9	-	2	36	s	Sandown	7.5	0.11	6	43	s
Exmouth	7.1	-	7	45	s	Saunton Snd	8.3	-	9	48	s
Falmouth	6.4	0.10	10	50	b	Scarboro'	6.4	0.12	4	39	s
Folkestone	5.7	0.19	7	45	s	Shrewsbury	6.0	-	6	43	s
Glasgow	3.1	-	3	37	s	Skegness	5.5	0.09	6	43	s
Guernsey	6.8	0.03	10	50	s	Southend	6.0	0.09	8	46	sh
Hastings	5.5	0.08	7	45	s	Southport	8.3	0.02	6	43	s
Hayling I.	7.2	0.02	6	43	s	Southsea	7.4	0.04	7	45	s
Hove	5.3	0.01	7	45	s	Swanage	7.8	0.01	7	45	s
Hunstanton	4.1	0.08	6	43	s	Teignmouth	6.2	-	8	46	s
Isle of Man	5.0	0.07	7	45	s	Tenby	5.1	0.08	7	45	s
Jersey	7.5	0.01	9	48	s	Tiree	2.4	0.14	6	43	sl
Leeds	7.6	0.01	5	41	s	Torquay	6.7	-	10	50	s
Lerwick	4.5	0.01	2	36	s	Tynemouth	-	-	3	37	s
Leuchars	7.4	-	5	41	s	Ventnor	7.5	0.11	7	45	s
Littlehmptn	6.4	0.01	6	43	s	Weymouth	7.4	-	8	46	s

ABROAD

	C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F	
Ajaccio	16	61	r	Corfu	18	64	f	Madrid	9	48	f	Riyadh	26	79	s
Akrotiri	24	75	s	C'phagn	7	45	f	Majorca	13	55	f	Rome	17	63	r
Alex'dria	24	75	s	Dublin	6	43	s	Malaga	11	52	s	S Fr'isco	12	54	r
Algiers	18	64	f	Dubrovnik	17	63	c	Malta	21	70	f	S Paulo	29	84	c
Amst'dm	3	37	c	Faro	16	61	s	Melb'rne	17	63	c	Salzburg	4	39	c
Athens	18	64	f	Florence	15	59	r	Mexico C	18	64	s	Santiago	25	77	s
B Aires	29	84	s	Frankfurt	4	39	c	Miami	25	77	f	Seoul	4	39	r
Bahrain	27	81	s	Funchal	19	66	f	Milan	13	55	d	Sing'por	27	81	t
Bangkok	31	88	f	Geneva	6	43	c	Montreal	6	43	s	St'ktolm	7	45	c
Barbados	28	82	c	Gibraltar	13	55	s	Moscow	5	41	c	Strasb'rg	4	39	c
Barcelona	13	55	c	Helsinki	6	43	d	Munich	3	37	c	Sydney	28	82	f
Beirut	25	77	f	Hong K	25	77	f	N Delhi	23	73	s	Tangier	15	59	s
Belgrade	19	66	f	Innsbrck	7	45	s	N York	11	52	s	Tel Aviv	25	77	c
Berlin	5	41	d	Istanbul	12	54	s	Nairobi	22	72	f	Tenerife	23	73	f
Bermuda	19	66	c	Jeddah	22	72	t	Naples	20	68	f	Tokyo	17	63	s
Biarritz	6	43	r	Jo'burg	X	X	X	Nice	14	57	r	Toronto	7	45	f
Bordo'x	5	41	r	Karachi	X	X	X	Oslo	9	48	c	Tunis	22	72	f
Brussels	3	37	c	L Angels	15	59	s	Paris	4	39	c	Valencia	12	54	f
Budapst	13	55	f	L Palmas	21	70	c	Peking	8	46	s	Vanc'ver	2	36	c
Cairo	27	81	s	Le Tquet	5	41	f	Perth	20	68	f	Venice	15	59	s
Cape Tn	X	X	X	Lisbon	15	59	f	Prague	4	39	d	Vienna	13	55	f
Ch'church	X	X	X	Locarno	10	50	c	Reykjavik	-6	21	s	Warsaw	8	46	c
Chicago	4	39	f	Luxembg	2	36	c	Rhodes	20	68	s	Wash'ton	10	50	s
Cologne	5	41	c	Luxor	24	75	c	Rio de J	32	90	f	Zurich	5	41	c

Temperatures at midday local time on Sunday. X = not available



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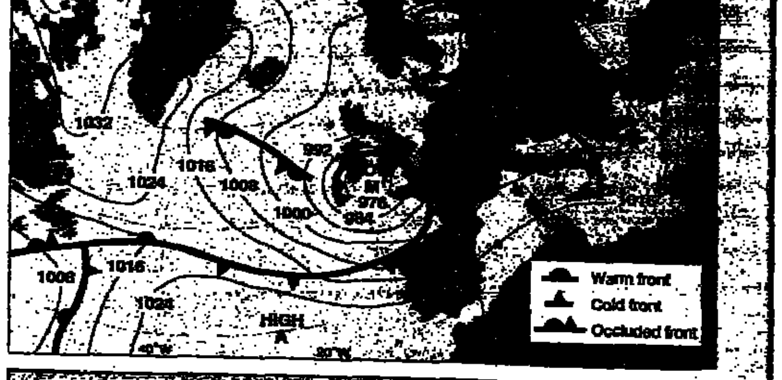

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	7:25	6.0	8:28	6.2	Leith	9:00	4.8	9:25	4.9
Aberdeen	8:02	3.7	8:12	3.8	Liverpool	5:26	7.8	5:57	8.2
Avonmouth	0:50	10.8	1:39	10.8	Lowestoft	2:57	2.3	4:40	2.2
Belfast	5:23	3.1	5:40	3.3	Margate	5:49	4.1	6:55	4.1
Cardiff	0:46	9.8	1:30	9.9	Milford Haven	0:13	5.7	12:51	5.9
Devonport	-	-	12:07	4.8	Newquay	11:45	5.8	-	-
Dover	5:15	5.8	6:09	5.7	Oban	-	-	1:07	3.4
Dublin (N Wall)	6:13	3.7	6:24	3.9	Penzance	11:13	4.8	0:00	0.0
Falmouth	11:40	4.5	-	-	Portland	0:18	1.6	12:47	1.7
Greenock	6:33	3.0	7:03	3.2	Portsmouth	5:32	4.2	5:59	4.1
Harwich	5:32	3.4	6:28	3.5	Shoreham	6:24	5.3	6:00	5.2
Holyhead	4:46	4.7	5:08	5.0	Southampton	5:01	4.1	5:30	4.1
Hull (Albert D)	6:38	1.8	7:03	2.4	Swansea	0:17	7.7	12:57	8.0
Ilfracombe	6:06	2.9	6:50	2.6	Tees	10:17	4.6	10:33	4.7
King's Lynn	12:48	5.5	-	-	Walton-on-Naze	5:34	3.6	6:25	3.6

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Yesterday: Highest day temp: Penzance, Cornwall, 10C (50F); lowest day max: Ballypatrick Forest, Co Antrim, 1C (34F); highest rainfall: Wainfleet, Lincolnshire, 0.36in; highest sunshine: Bristol Weather Centre, 7.9hr.

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